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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.
AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE DC DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR AUGUST 1990 OCTOBER 1990

Area Job Growth Now Only 0.1% Over the Year

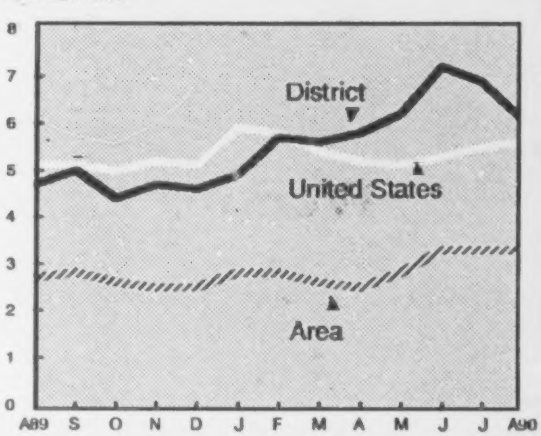
D.C. Employment Drops To 6.1%

Labor Force

During August, unemployment declined in the District from 6.9 percent of the labor force to 6.1 percent. In the suburbs, the rate increased from 2.7 percent to 2.8 percent and in the entire Metropolitan Area, the rate remained unchanged at 3.3 percent.

The unadjusted August rate for all civilian workers in the United States was 5.1 percent, down from July's 5.5 percent. August represents the seventh consecutive month that the District's rate has been higher than that for the nation.

Unemployment Rates
August 1989 - August 1990



The District

The District's August labor force statistics reflect a rather common pattern for the month, except the fall in the unemployment rate was larger than usual. For the past 12 years, the unemployment rate between July and August has dropped ten times and increased only twice. However, this year's decline of eight-tenths of a percentage point was significantly larger than the 0.3 long-term average for the month. Thus, the August decline appears to be more than just seasonal.

During the month, payroll employment declined by 3,700 and unemployment declined by 3,000. Since both employment and unemployment declined, the size of the labor force shrunk by 6,700. This movement reflects, to a large degree, the completion of the District's Summer Youth Employment Program which employed over 10,000 young workers during July and early August. These workers and other temporary summer employees left their jobs and the labor force to prepare for the return to the classroom.

Of the 18,100 people remaining on the August

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Government of the
District of Columbia

Marion Barry, Jr., Mayor

JOB SERVICE

Department of
Employment Services
F. Alexis H. Roberson
Director

The

Department

of

Employment

Services

Working

to

keep

Washington

working.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR AUGUST 1990 OCTOBER 1990

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The *Area Labor Summary* is published monthly by the D.C. Department of Employment Services, 500 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The Labor Market Information and Research Staff (Richard Groner, Chief) prepares the *Summary*. The following staff members have contributed to the publication and development of data herein: Charles Roeslin, Rufus Daniels, Eileen Dent, Nancy Anderson-Grant, Elsie Taylor, and Gwendolyn Thompson, and administrative support was provided by Robin McDonald.

Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

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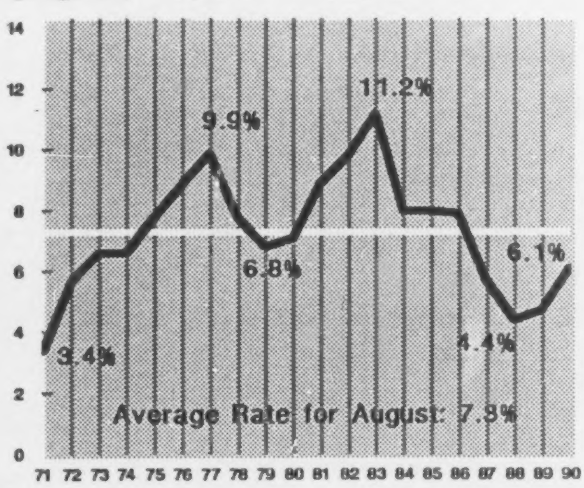
jobless roster, supporting data indicate that nearly half were recent entrants to the labor market while about four of every ten had lost their jobs. The remainder were job leavers.

The significant statistics are the over-the-year changes. Since August of last year, the number of residents on payrolls declined by 21,100. At the same time, the unemployment rolls increased by 3,100 jobless workers. The difference between the larger decline in employment and the smaller increase in unemployment means that over the year the District's labor supply shrunk by 18,000, or nearly 6 percent. This decrease in the labor force probably indicates that many residents have given up looking for a job and some may have relocated to areas outside the City. Information is unavailable to estimate the levels of each, but the change probably represents a combination of both discouragement and relocation.

For the first eight months of 1990, the District's unemployment rate has averaged about 6.1 percent, up from last year's annual average of 5.0 percent, but significantly below the ten year annual average of 8.3 percent.

District Unemployment Rates In the Month of August 1971 - 1990



The Area & Suburbs

In the suburbs, the August labor force movements were bascially similar to the seasonal movements recorded in the District. Both the suburban labor force and employment declined, however, unlike in the District, the level of unemployment increased over the month. The result was a one-tenth of a percentage point increase in the suburban unemployment rate to 2.8 percent of the labor force.

Over the year, the suburban unemployment rate increased a significant six-tenths of a percentage point. This increase resulted from a very small expansion in the suburban labor force of only 1,600 new workers and a larger 10,600-person decrease in jobholders. These two changes combined to produce a 12,300-person increase in the jobless pool.

August changes at the District and suburban levels resulted in the Area's unemployment rate remaining unchanged from July at 3.3 percent.

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Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C., MSA by City and County

	Aug.a/ 1990	Julyb/ 1990	Aug 1989
District of Columbia	6.1	6.9	4.7
Frederick County	4.9	4.3	3.4
Calvert County	4.3	4.7	3.5
Prince Georges Cty.	3.9	3.9	3.2
Alexandria City	3.2	2.6	2.1
Charles County	3.1	3.2	2.7
Stafford County	3.0	2.5	1.6
Montgomery County	2.6	2.7	2.3
Arlington County	2.5	2.0	1.7
Prince William Cty.	2.3	2.0	1.6
Manassas City	2.2	2.1	1.3
Fairfax County	2.1	1.8	1.5
Manassas Park City	2.0	1.5	1.2
Fairfax City	1.8	1.6	1.6
Falls Church City	1.8	1.5	1.5
Loudoun County	1.7	1.5	1.3

a/ Preliminary. b/ Revised.

SOURCE: The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department of Employment and Economic Development, and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Continued from page 3

The unemployment rate in the Washington Area has now been above three percent for three consecutive months. This is the first time that this has occurred since 1987.

Over the year, (August 1989-August 1990), the number of Area residents with jobs decreased by 31,700, or 1.4 percent. This decrease in jobholding resulted in a 16,400-person shrinkage in the labor force and a 15,400-person expansion in joblessness. All of the decrease in the Area labor supply is traceable to the declines in the District, while 80 percent of the increase in the level of unemployment can be traced to the suburbs.

Most of the increase in the Area level of unemployment has occurred since April and has been concentrated in the suburbs (see chart). Over the past four months, Area unemployment has risen from 55,900 to 73,300, an increase of 17,400, or 31 percent. Unemployed suburbanites accounted for 16,700 of the increase, while only 700 have been District residents. Thus, during the past four months, the drop in Area job growth has begun to substantially impact the jobless rolls in the suburbs, despite the relatively low unemployment rates.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

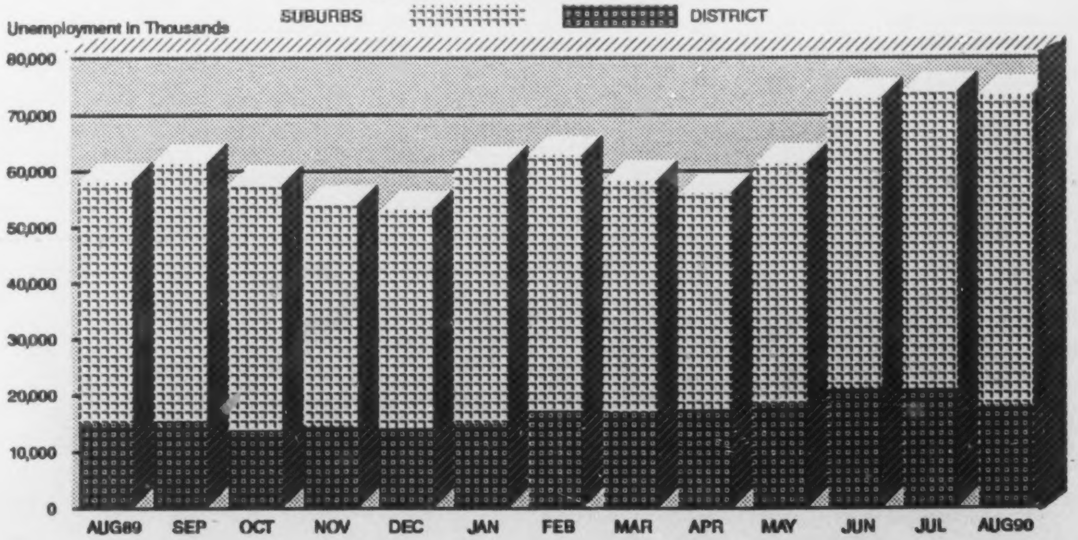
The number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits in the District of Columbia totaled 6,311 in August 1990 down 4,634 claimants from July. In August, 52 percent of all UI claimants were males. Occupationally, clerical and sales accounted for 26 percent of the total claimants. Professional, technical and managerial workers accounted for 25 percent and service workers 23 percent of the total.

The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 9.4 weeks for all claimants in August. Over the month, the duration for males rose from 9.2 weeks to 9.7 weeks. For females, the duration also increased from 8.5 weeks to 9.1 weeks. In August 1989, the average duration for males was 10.0 weeks and for females 9.9 weeks.

Labor Force Distribution
Washington Metropolitan Area
August 1990 & August 1989
(percent)

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
		AUGUST 1990	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.3	12.9	24.7
Suburbs	86.7	87.1	75.3
		AUGUST 1989	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	14.0	13.7	25.9
Suburbs	86.0	86.3	74.1

Levels of Unemployment
The Washington Area
August 1989 - August 1990



Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA
August 1990a/

	Aug.b/ 1990	Julyc/ 1990	Aug.d/ 1989	Julyd/ 1989	Net Change From July 1990	Net Change From Aug. 1989
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	297,900	304,600	315,900	318,100	-6,700	-18,000
Total Employed	279,800	283,500	300,900	301,500	-3,700	-21,100
Total Unemployed	18,100	21,100	15,000	16,600	-3,000	3,100
Unemployment Ratee/	6.1	6.9	4.7	5.2	-0.8	1.4
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,938,000	1,954,900	1,936,400	1,964,300	-16,900	1,600
Total Employed	1,882,900	1,902,200	1,893,500	1,921,600	-19,300	-10,600
Total Unemployed	55,200	52,800	42,900	42,700	2,400	12,300
Unemployment Ratee/	2.8	2.7	2.2	2.2	0.1	0.6
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,235,900	2,259,500	2,252,300	2,282,400	-23,600	-16,400
Total Employed	2,162,700	2,185,700	2,194,400	2,223,100	-23,000	-31,700
Total Unemployed	73,300	73,900	57,900	59,300	-600	15,400
Unemployment Ratee/	3.3	3.3	2.6	2.6	——	0.7

a/ Data subject to annual Benchmark revisions. Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding.

b/ Preliminary. c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions. e/ Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia, the Virginia Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, and Stafford; and the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick, and Calvert.

Job Growth

The District

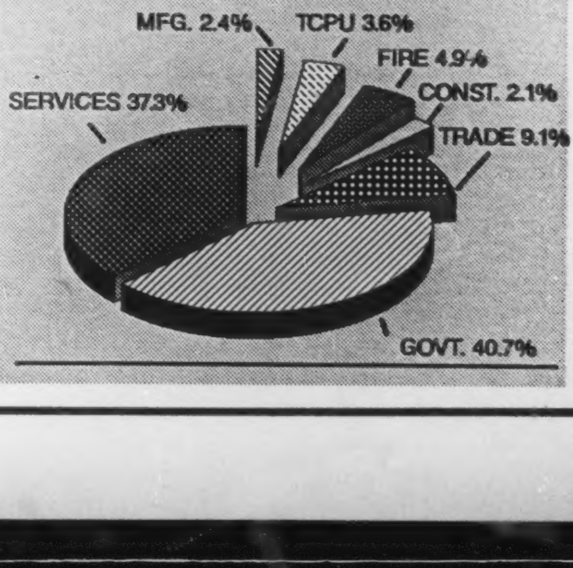
The number of jobs in the District decreased by 15,500 for a loss of 2.2 percent between July and August. The public sector was primarily responsible for the loss with a decline in State and Local Government (12,100 jobs). The substantial decrease in State and Local Government employment reflects the early completion of the District's Summer Youth Employment Program. Federal Government declined by 1,300 jobs as a result of the winding down of 1990 Census activities and normal seasonal losses.

The private sector decreased by 2,100 with primarily seasonal losses in Services (1,300 jobs) and Retail Trade (800 jobs).

Over the year (August 1989 to August 1990), the number of District jobs declined 1.0 percent for a loss of 7,000 jobs. **The private sector grew at a rate of 0.3 percent, generating 1,300 jobs.** Communications and Public Utilities accounted for the growth with a gain of 2,600 jobs due entirely to an unusually low employment level

Continued on page 6

Distribution of District Jobs August 1990



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last year as a result of a strike occurring in the industry.

The public sector declined at a rate of 2.9 percent with a substantial loss in State and Local Government (8,900 jobs) partially offset by a gain in Federal Government (600 jobs). The sizable decline in State and Local Government is directly related to the shorter duration this year of the District's Summer Youth Employment Program.

The Suburbs

The number of suburban jobs decreased 0.5 percent for a loss of 7,400 jobs between July and August. The public sector was primarily responsible for the loss with a seasonal decline in State and Local Government (3,500 jobs) and a Census related loss in Federal Government (1,500 jobs). The Virginia suburbs accounted for 69 percent of the decline in State and Local Government and 80 percent of the loss in Federal Government.

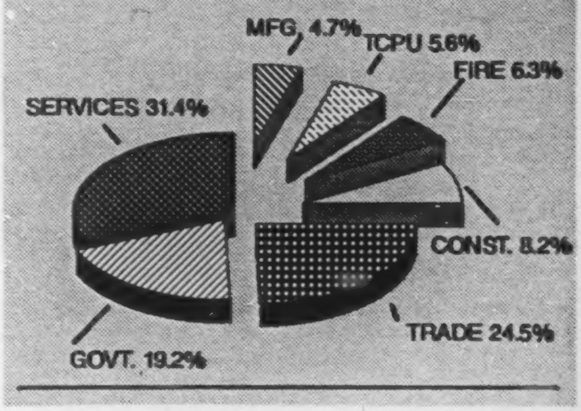
The private sector declined by 2,400 jobs with losses in Services (800 jobs) and Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate (500 jobs). The Virginia suburbs accounted for a majority of the loss in Services while the Maryland suburbs were primarily responsible for the loss in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate.

Over the year (August 1989 to August 1990), suburban jobs grew at a rate of 0.5 percent for a gain of 8,300 jobs. **The Maryland suburbs grew at a rate of 1.1 percent accounting for 98 percent of suburban growth while the Virginia suburbs increased at a rate of 0.1 percent.**

The public sector accounted for 94 percent of all new suburban jobs with a gain in State and Local Government (8,500 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (700 jobs) resulting in growth over the year of 2.7 percent. Fifty-four percent of the growth in government occurred in the Virginia suburbs.

The private sector accounted for less than one percent of all new suburban jobs with growth in the service-producing sector (12,400 jobs) virtually offset by a decline in the goods-producing sector (11,900 jobs). The primary job gainers were Trade (6,300 jobs) and Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities (3,500 jobs) while job losses were primarily concentrated in Construction (11,300 jobs). Three-fourths of the growth as well as 95 percent of the decline in these industries occurred in the Virginia suburbs. The Maryland suburbs were responsible for 55 percent of the growth in Services (3,300 jobs).

Distribution of Suburban Jobs
August 1990

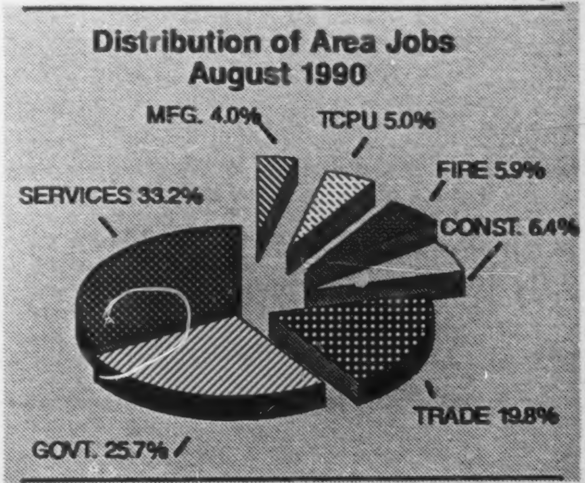


The Area

The Washington Metropolitan Area lost 22,900 jobs between July and August for a decrease of 1.0 percent. The public sector was responsible for 80 percent of the loss with census related declines in Federal Government (2,800 jobs) and a loss in State and Local Government (15,600 jobs) related to the early completion of the District's Summer Youth Employment Program.

Continued on page 7

Distribution of Area Jobs
August 1990



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The private sector declined by 0.3 percent with primarily seasonal losses in Services (2,100 jobs) and declines in Trade (800 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (700 jobs).

Over the year (August 1989 to August 1990), the Area grew at a rate of 0.1 percent for a gain of 1,300 jobs. The private sector also grew at a rate of 0.1 percent, generating 1,800 jobs and accounting for all of the new area jobs. The leading job contributors were Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities (6,100 jobs), Trade (5,500 jobs) and Services (3,500 jobs). Construction, on the other hand, declined by 7.6 percent for a loss of 11,700 jobs.

The public sector decreased at a rate of 0.1 percent for a loss of 500 jobs with declines in both State and Local Government (400 jobs) and Federal Government (100 jobs).

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a]

(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	Aug.[b] 1990	July[c] 1990	Aug.[d] 1989	Aug.[b] 1990	July[c] 1990	Aug.[d] 1989
TOTAL	**681.5**	**697.0**	**688.5**	**2,240.6**	**2,263.5**	**2,239.3**
Total Private Sector	**404.3**	**406.4**	**403.0**	**1,664.4**	**1,668.9**	**1,662.6**
Total Government	**277.2**	**290.6**	**285.5**	**576.2**	**594.6**	**576.7**
Total Goods Producing	**30.4**	**30.1**	**30.7**	**232.5**	**232.9**	**244.7**
Manufacturing	**16.1**	**16.2**	**16.0**	**89.0**	**89.4**	**89.5**
Total Durables	2.5	2.5	2.4	42.3	42.6	43.6
Stone, Clay, Glass Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.2	3.2	3.6
Electronic & Electric Equip.	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.0	17.1	17.4
All Other Durable	N/A	N/A	N/A	22.1	22.3	22.6
Total Non-Durable	13.6	13.7	13.6	46.7	46.8	45.9
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	4.7	4.7	4.9
Printing & Publishing	12.9	13.0	12.9	36.1	36.2	35.2
All Other Non-Durable	0.4	0.4	0.4	5.9	5.9	5.8
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**1.1**	**1.1**	**1.1**
Construction	**14.2**	**13.8**	**14.6**	**142.4**	**142.4**	**154.1**
Total Service Producing	**651.1**	**666.9**	**657.8**	**2008.1**	**2030.6**	**1994.6**
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	**24.8**	**24.9**	**22.2**	**112.2**	**112.7**	**106.1**
All Transportation	9.8	9.9	9.8	57.2	57.7	55.5
Railroads	4.2	4.2	4.1	5.3	5.3	5.3
Transportation ex. Railroad	5.6	5.7	5.7	51.9	52.4	50.2
Communications & Public Utilities	15.0	15.0	12.4	55.0	55.0	50.6

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a]
(in thousands)

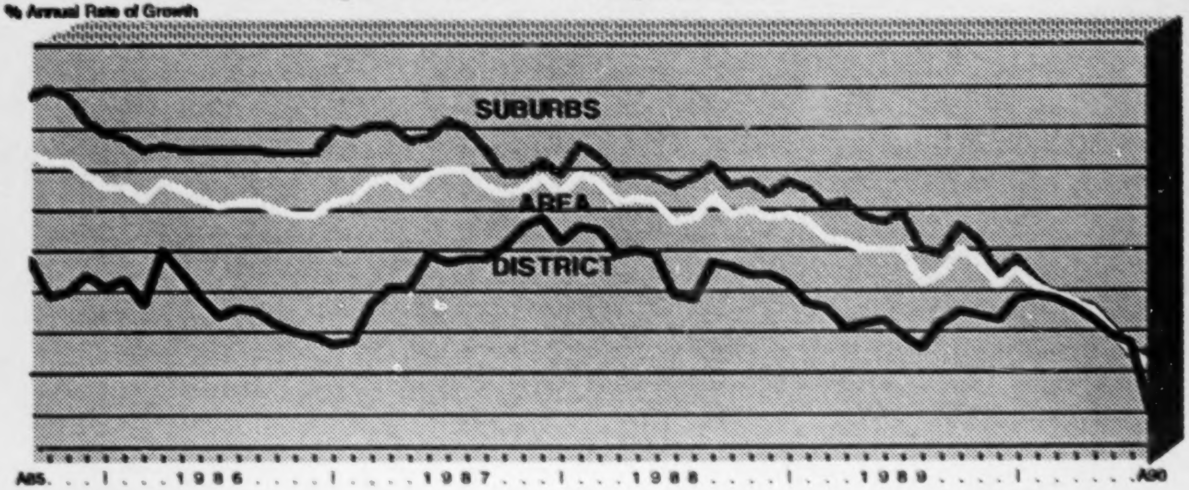
INDUSTRY	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
	Aug.[b] 1990	July[c] 1990	Aug.[d] 1989	Aug.[b] 1990	July[c] 1990	Aug.[d] 1989
Trade	**61.8**	**62.6**	**62.6**	**444.1**	**444.9**	**438.6**
Wholesale	8.2	8.2	8.4	78.3	78.0	78.7
Retail	53.6	54.4	54.2	365.8	366.9	359.9
General Merchandise	N/A	N/A	N/A	39.6	40.4	39.3
Food Stores	N/A	N/A	N/A	53.4	53.3	50.8
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	39.1	39.1	39.3
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	25.9	25.8	26.9
Eating & Drinking Places	27.5	28.1	27.6	120.2	120.4	118.4
All Other Retail	26.1	26.3	26.6	87.6	87.9	85.2
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**33.3**	**33.5**	**33.7**	**131.8**	**132.5**	**132.9**
Finance	16.0	16.0	16.1	61.2	61.7	61.3
Depository Institutions	9.0	9.0	9.1	39.9	40.4	39.7
Other Finance	7.0	7.0	7.0	21.3	21.3	21.6
Insurance	7.4	7.5	7.7	26.9	26.8	27.1
Real Estate	9.9	10.0	9.9	43.7	44.0	44.5
Services	**254.0**	**255.3**	**253.8**	**743.8**	**745.9**	**740.3**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	16.3	16.9	15.8	36.8	37.5	36.0
Personal Services	3.2	3.3	3.4	22.7	22.7	22.5
Business Services	39.1	38.7	41.1	182.1	181.3	182.2
Services to Buildings	14.6	14.4	15.7	N/A	N/A	N/A
Personnel Supply	8.2	8.1	9.6	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	6.2	6.2	6.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Business Services	10.1	10.0	9.8	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	36.9	36.8	36.9	114.3	114.1	112.1
Legal Services	30.6	31.1	29.6	41.8	42.4	40.4
Educational Services	28.7	28.6	28.4	41.0	40.8	40.8
Social Services	12.2	12.3	12.1	34.1	34.0	33.2
Membership Organizations	33.7	33.9	32.8	60.2	60.8	59.1
Engineering/Management Ser.	43.7	43.9	43.9	144.4	145.4	147.7
All Other Services	9.6	9.8	9.8	66.4	66.9	66.3
Government	**277.2**	**290.6**	**285.5**	**576.2**	**594.6**	**576.7**
Federal Government	223.1	224.4	222.5	369.6	372.4	369.7
State & Local Government	54.1	66.2	63.0	206.6	222.2	207.0
State Government	49.3	61.4	58.2	74.2	86.8	82.0
Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	132.4	135.4	125.0
Public Transportation	4.8	4.8	4.8	N/A	N/A	N/A

a/ Data subject to annual Benchmark revisions. Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. b/ Preliminary.
c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions.

Data includes all full-and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

SOURCE: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Monthly Over-The-Year Rate of Job Growth
August 1985 - August 1990



Area Job Growth Rates

Over the past five years (August 1985 to August 1990), the Washington Area has created new jobs at a rate of 3.8 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has declined from a peak of 5.4 percent in September 1985. **Between August 1989 and August 1990, the Area's job growth slowed to just one-tenth of a percentage point. The over-the-year rate for this past August was down substantially from the 2.2 percent recorded in August of last year.** In fact, this August's rate is the smallest over-the-year growth in all of the 60 months in the local job growth series.

During August, suburban over-the-year growth also measured a very modest five-tenths of a percent, down significantly from the 3.0 percent registered in August 1989. Job growth in the District actually declined one percent over the year, compared to growth of 0.6 percent recorded in August of last year. This August's estimate reflects a shortened Summer Youth Employment Program operated by the District Government this summer. In August 1989, youth employed in the program were counted in the monthly total. This was not the case this August.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from 86,900 new jobs produced between August 1984 and August 1985, to just 1,300 between August 1989 and August 1990. Over the past year, 8,300 new jobs were added to the Suburban economy, while the District lost 7,000 jobs. **The Washington Area is now creating new jobs at an even slower pace than the sluggish U.S. economy (0.1 percent vs. 1.8 percent for the U.S. economy).** This is the seventh consecutive month that the local job growth rate has been below the U.S. rate.

NOTE: It should be recognized that the monthly estimates of jobs are subject to annual benchmark revisions. These revisions can be plus or minus one percent or more, a range well within the current measurements of change.

Profile of Job Growth Rates
August 1985 to August 1990

The Area	
Average 60 months	3.8%
High, September 1985	5.4%
Low, August 1990	0.1%
1-year ago	2.2%
Current month	0.1%
The Suburbs	
Average 60 months	4.6%
High, October 1985	7.0%
Low, July 1990	0.4%
1-year ago	3.0%
Current month	0.5%
The District	
Average 60 months	2.0%
High, December 1987	3.8%
Low, August 1990	-1.0%
1-year ago	0.6%
Current month	-1.0%

NOTE: Data reflects benchmark revisions for 1988-1989.

PAY PROFILE:

The Average Annual Pay in the Washington Area in 1989

On average, persons working in the Washington Metropolitan Area were paid $28,103, during 1989. For people working in the District proper, the annual pay averaged $32,101.[1] Thus, people working in the District made $3,998 more than the average for the whole Area, a 14 percent differential. The 6.1 percent increase in the District during 1989 moved the District for the first time above the average paid in the New York Metropolitan Area.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics,[2] average pay in 319 metropolitan areas across the nation was $23,573 in 1989, or 19.2 percent less than in the Washington Area. Only in metropolitan New York ($31,621) and San Francisco ($28,644) were the average pay higher than the Washington Area. Regionally, average pay in Philadelphia was $24,914, Baltimore $23,109, Richmond $22,351 and Norfolk $19,441. Therefore, Washington Area workers were paid about 11 percent more than in Philadelphia, nearly 18 percent more than in Baltimore, 21 percent more than in Richmond and nearly 31 percent more than in Norfolk. The average for all workers in the United States was $22,567, or nearly 25 percent less than the average in the Washington Area.

Of the selected areas, only Richmond (5.0 percent) had a higher percentage increase in average pay than in the Washington Area (4.9 percent). The average percentage increase for all American workers during 1989 and for all metro-

Continued on page 11

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[1] For a detail pay by industry in the District, see the September 1990 edition of the *Area Labor Summary*.

[2] Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Average Annual Pay Levels in Metropolitan Areas, 1989*, News Release, September 21, 1990.

NOTE: Annual pay is compiled from reports submitted by employers under unemployment insurance programs for 107 million full-time and part-time workers across the nation. Annual pay is computed by dividing total annual reported payrolls by the reported average monthly employment.

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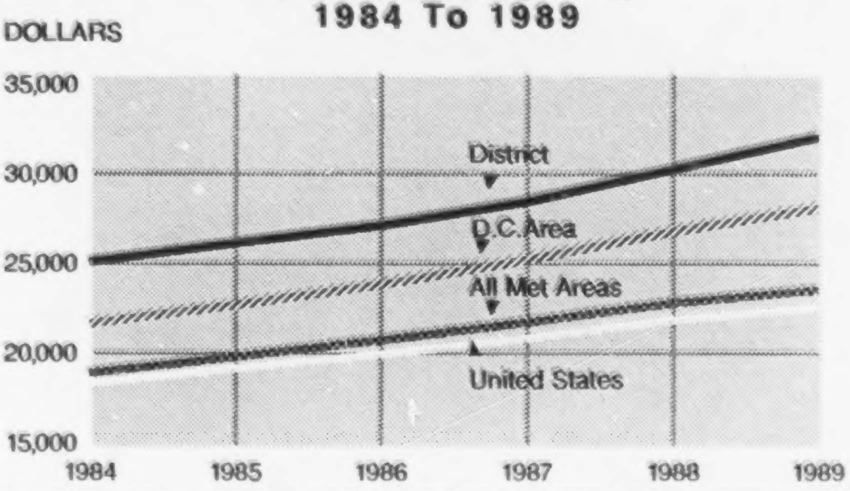
politan areas workers was 3.2 percent each. The smallest percentage increase (1.5 percent) occurred in New Orleans.

Over the past five years, the average pay of workers in the Washington Area increased by 29.6 percent, giving Area workers a slight three-tenths of a percent increase over District based workers. The Area increase was, however, one full percentage point higher than workers in all metropolitan areas and 1.3 percentage point more than the average American worker.

Annual Average Pay
1984 To 1989



Annual Average Pay
1984-1989
(in dollars)

	U.S.	All Metro Areas	D.C. Area	District
1984	18,353	18,934	21,692	25,121
1985	19,189	19,851	22,727	26,160
1986	19,966	20,762	23,859	27,137
1987	20,857	21,722	25,210	28,477
1988	21,872	22,831	26,784	30,253
1989*	22,567	23,573	28,103	32,101
Change	4,214	4,639	6,411	6,980
% Change	23.0	24.5	29.6	27.8
Annual Change	4.6	4.9	5.9	5.6

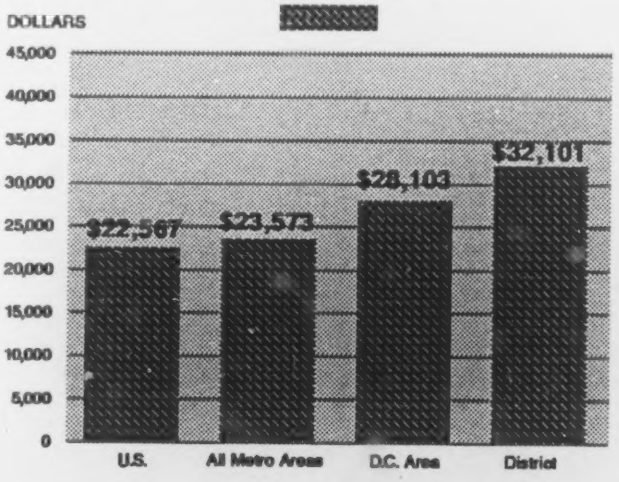
*Preliminary
SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Annual Average Pay
Selected Metropolitan Areas & The District
1988-1989
(in dollars)

Area	1988	1989*	% Change
THE DISTRICT	30,253	32,101	6.1
New York, NY	30,578	31,621	3.4
San Francisco, CA	27,859	28,644	2.8
WASHINGTON, DC	26,784	28,103	4.9
Detroit, MI	26,602	27,315	2.7
Boston, MA	25,731	26,915	4.6
Los Angeles, CA	26,019	26,716	2.7
Chicago, IL	25,691	26,341	2.5
Dallas, TX	24,463	25,240	3.2
Houston, TX	24,410	25,222	3.3
Philadelphia, PA	23,895	24,914	4.3
Minneapolis, MN	23,618	24,372	3.2
Seattle, WA	23,436	24,361	3.9
Atlanta, GA	23,445	24,072	2.7
Cleveland, OH	23,051	23,718	2.9
ALL METRO AREAS	22,831	23,573	3.2
Baltimore, MD	22,261	23,109	3.8
San Diego, CA	22,183	22,956	3.5
UNITED STATES	21,872	22,567	3.2
Pittsburgh, PA	21,945	22,530	2.7
Richmond, VA	21,293	22,351	5.0
Milwaukee, WI	21,800	22,322	2.4
New Orleans, LA	20,389	20,695	1.5
Norfolk, VA	18,982	19,441	2.4

*Preliminary
SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Annual Average Pay 1989



Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area

In July 1990, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 269 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The Washington Area's jobless rate was 3.2 percent in July down from 3.3 percent recorded in June. As in June, this was the eighteenth lowest jobless rate of the 269 areas reporting. A year ago, the Washington Area rate was 2.6 percent.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 3.2 percent was the lowest of all the major metropolitan areas.

The Baltimore Area, only 35 miles north of Washington, reported a July jobless rate of 5.0 percent, up from the 4.3 percent recorded in June. This is the second consecutive month that the Baltimore rate has increased 0.7 percent. The rate had been on the downturn over the last year. Until last month, it had one of the three lowest rates of the major metropolitan areas. A year ago, the Baltimore rate was 3.9 percent.

The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, posted a July jobless rate of 3.4 percent down 0.7 percentage point from the 4.1 percent recorded in June. A year ago, the rate was 3.2 percent.

In addition, to the Washington Metropolitan Statistical Area, jobless rates between 3.3 percent and 3.9 percent were reported in 4 other selected metropolitan areas, Milwaukee (3.4 percent), Seattle and Nashville (both 3.7 percent) and San Francisco 3.9 percent.

There were 19 large metropolitan areas with rates between 4.0 and 4.9 percent. There were 12 large metropolitan areas with rates between 5.0 and 5.9 percent, and 6 large metropolitan areas with rates of 6.0 percent and above. Detroit had the largest rate at 8.2 percent.

Of the 269 metropolitan areas for which July data are available, 46 had over-the-year decreases of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rate, while 30 had increases of that magnitude. A total of 52 areas had July 1990 rates below 4 percent, and 46 had rates of 7 percent or higher.

Unemployment Rates in Selected Statistical Areas

MSA	JULY	
	1990*	1989
1. Washington, D.C.	**3.2**	**2.6**
2. Richmond-Petersburg, VA	3.4	3.2
3. Milwaukee, WI	3.4	3.5
4. Seattle, WA	3.7	4.8
5. Nashville, TN	3.7	3.6
6. San Francisco, CA	3.9	4.0
7. Cincinnati, OH	4.0	4.2
8. Louisville, KY	4.0	4.5
9. Pittsburgh, PA	4.1	4.6
10. Columbus, OH	4.2	4.3
11. Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	4.3	3.7
12. Salt Lake City, UT	4.3	4.2
13. Cleveland, OH	4.3	4.2
14. Memphis, TN	4.3	4.4
15. Oklahoma City, OK	4.4	4.4
16. Kansas City, MO	4.5	4.3
17. Oakland, CA	4.6	5.0
18. Denver, CO	4.6	4.8
19. Dayton, OH	4.6	4.6
20. Indianapolis, IN	4.7	3.4
21. Portland, OR	4.7	4.5
22. Buffalo, NY	4.7	5.7
23. Philadelphia, PA	4.7	4.1
24. Phoenix, AR	4.7	4.6
25. Sacramento, CA	4.9	5.4
26. Baltimore, MD	5.0	3.9
27. San Diego, CA	5.0	4.7
28. Atlanta, GA	5.1	4.8
29. Dallas, TX	5.3	5.9
30. Gary, IN	5.3	3.8
31. Los Angeles, CA	5.4	5.6
32. Houston, TX	5.5	6.4
33. Boston, MA	5.6	4.0
34. Jackson, MS	5.6	5.6
35. Newark, NJ	5.7	4.8
36. Birmingham, AL	5.7	6.0
37. New Orleans, LA	5.8	7.8
38. St. Louis, MO	6.1	5.2
39. Chicago, IL	6.1	5.0
40. Montgomery, AL	6.4	6.9
41. New York, NY	6.5	5.0
42. Miami, FL	6.6	6.6
43. Detroit, MI	8.2	7.6

*Preliminary unemployment rates

States

When the District of Columbia (with a July preliminary unemployment rate of 6.9 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the seventh highest jobless rate in the Country. This was one notch below June's standing. Virginia's rate at 3.8 percent was down from the 4.2 percent reported in June. Maryland's rate was up 0.5 percentage point from 4.0 percent to 4.5 percent. Virginia and Maryland have two of the fifteen lowest jobless rates among the 51 jurisdictions. This month, Virginia and Maryland ranked thirty-seventh and forty-seventh, respectively, in the standings. A year ago, Virginia's rate was 3.3 percent, while Maryland's was 3.6 percent.

Of the 29 states and the District of Columbia reporting rising unemployment, 8 reported over-the-year increases in their unemployment rate of 1 percentage point or more. The largest increases were in three New England states—Rhode Island (3.1 points), New Hampshire (2.1 points) and Massachusetts (1.9 points). Three states reported over-the-year decreases of 1 percentage point or more; the largest decreases occurred in Wyoming (2.7 points), Louisiana (2.4 points) and Washington (1.2 points).

Nine states had July unemployment rates below 4 percent. Nebraska (2.2 percent) and Hawaii (2.8 percent) had the lowest rates. In contrast six states had unemployment rates over 7 percent. The highest rates were in Mississippi (8.0 percent) and Michigan (7.7 percent).

Cities

In comparison with the 25 selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with a July preliminary rate of 6.9 percent) had the thirteenth highest jobless rate. This was three notches below the position held last month. The average unemployment rate of the 26 cities edged up from 6.5 percent in June to 7.0 percent in July. A year ago, the rate was 6.4 percent.

Seven cities reported jobless rates at or below 6 percent, with the lowest posted in Pittsburgh and Columbus (both 4.0 percent) and Salt Lake City (4.3 percent).

Baltimore's rate at 7.5 percent was up 0.8 percentage point from June. Baltimore held the seventeenth position among the 26 selected cities. A year ago, Baltimore's rate was 6.0 percent.

The City of Boston is experiencing rising rates of joblessness, as are all of the large cities in New England. In July, the rate was 6.2 percent up from 5.5 percent in June. A year ago, the Boston rate was 4.7 percent, up a full 1.5 percentage point over the year.

The central cities of Gary and Detroit are still in the double digit column as they have been practically all year. In May, their rates were 10.9 percent and 10.1 percent, respectively. In June, their rates were 10.1 and 10.8 percent, respectively, almost a reverse. In July, their rates were 10.1 and 10.8 percent, respectively. A year ago, Detroit's rate was 12.0 percent and Gary's rate was 6.8 percent.

In July, of the 26 selected central cities, thirteen cities reported decreases in joblessness and twelve cities reported increases in joblessness over the year. The largest decreases were reported by New Orleans (2.5 points) and Detroit (1.4 points). The largest increases in joblessness were recorded by Gary (3.3 points), New York (1.9 percent) and the District of Columbia (1.7 percent). Los Angeles' rate was unchanged over the year at 6.0 percent.

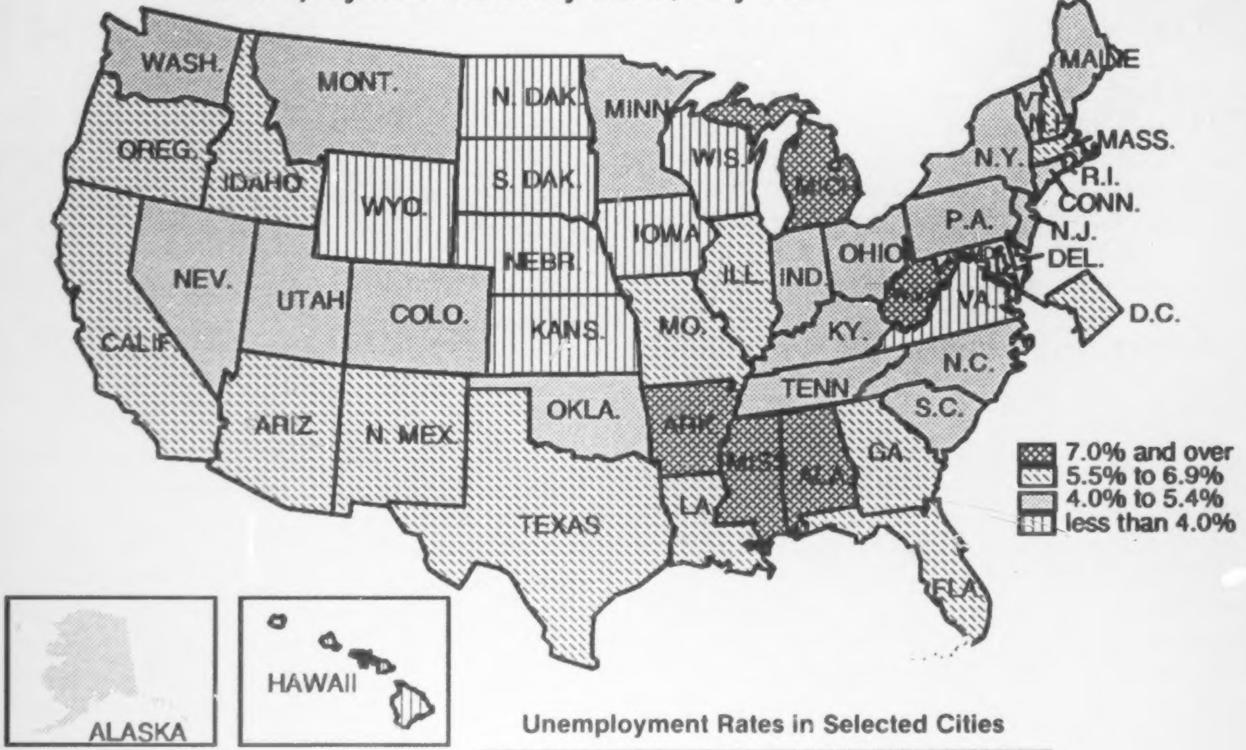
Hire More Workers,

Pay Less Taxes!

TARGETED JOBS TAX CREDIT PROGRAM (TJTC)

(Call 639-1661)

Unemployment Rates by State, July 1990


WASH.
MONT.
N. DAK.
MINN.
MAINE
OREG.
IDAHO
WYO.
S. DAK.
WIS.
MICH.
N.Y.
MASS.
R.I.
CONN.
N.J.
DEL.
NEBR.
IOWA
P.A.
OHIO
IND.
ILL.
NEV.
UTAH
COLO.
KANS.
MO.
KY.
VA.
D.C.
CALIF.
N.C.
TENN.
OKLA.
ARK.
S.C.
ARIZ.
N. MEX.
MISS.
ALA.
GA.
TEXAS
LA.
FLA.
ALASKA
HAWAII
7.0% and over
5.5% to 6.9%
4.0% to 5.4%
less than 4.0%

Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities

	JULY	
	1990	1989
1. Pittsburgh, PA	4.0	4.6
2. Columbus, OH	4.0	4.4
3. Salt Lake City, UT	4.3	4.4
4. San Francisco, CA	4.7	5.0
5. Cincinnati, OH	5.1	5.4
6. Los Angeles, CA	6.0	6.0
7. Houston, TX	6.0	6.9
8. New Orleans, LA	6.1	8.6
9. Boston, MA	6.2	4.7
10. Dallas, TX	6.2	6.9
11. Philadelphia, PA	6.3	5.3
12. Buffalo, NY	6.7	8.0
13. District of Columbia	**6.9**	**5.2**
14. Cleveland, OH	6.9	6.7
15. Dayton, OH	6.9	7.2
16. New York, NY	7.2	5.3
17. Baltimore, MD	7.5	6.0
18. Atlanta, GA	7.5	7.0
19. Chicago, IL	8.0	6.7
20. Milwaukee, WI	8.1	8.2
21. Birmingham, AL	8.2	8.6
22. St. Louis, MO	8.4	7.8
23. Miami, FL	8.9	8.6
24. Newark, NJ	9.8	8.9
25. Gary, IN	10.1	6.8
26. Detroit, MI	10.8	12.0

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

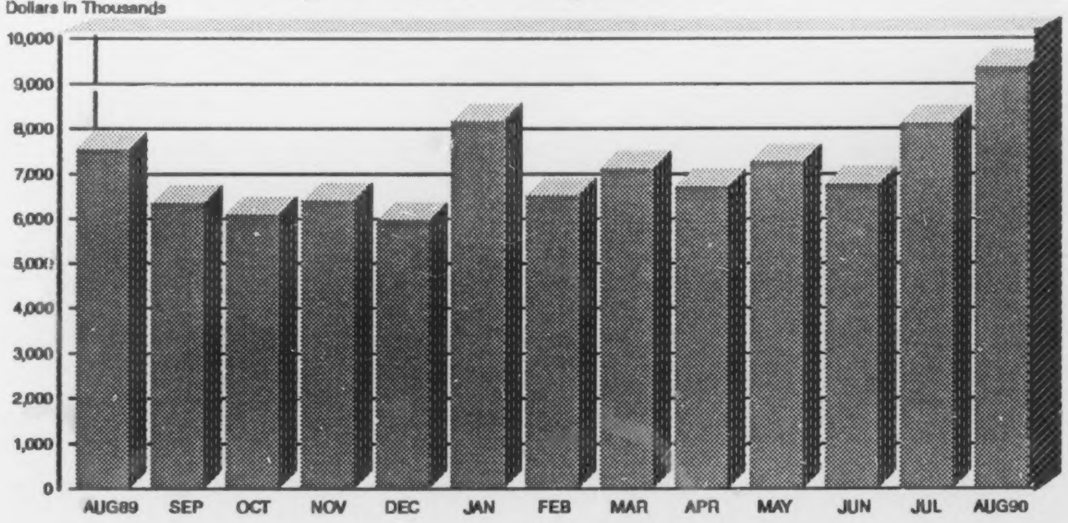
Unemployment Insurance Activities August 1990

August 1990 claims for unemployment compensation benefits in the District of Columbia totalled 3,680—6 percent below last month, and 26 percent above August of last year. The drop from July was expected, as this July was (and usually is each year) seasonally high. This seasonally high point is because of the filing surge associated with the quarterly change-of-base period for determining monetary eligibility. The phenomenon (an unusual drop) usually occurs in initial claims from the first to the second month in each quarter. This year, however, the drop was not unusual, since in past years it has averaged above 19 percent. August this year was 26 percent above last year. It reflects filings associated with recent layoffs in the retail, banking, and health care industries. This factor helped to bring the August level near the normally "seasonal" high in July. The most pronounced downward change this year between the first and second months of the quarter was in the first quarter. The second quarter change was upward—probably seasonal in nature associated with filings from employees in school cafeterias. Claims increased 13 percent between the first and second month in the second quarter.

The number of idle weeks compensated came to 43,850 in August, and represented a 12 percent increase from last month and was 16 percent above last year. The compensated workload in August was the peak for this year to date. The $9.4 million gross outlay for benefits in August was also peak for the year to date.

The average weekly benefit amount has risen steadily this year—from $201 in January to $213 in August. The comparable rise last year was from $189 to $199. The outlay for compensation from January-August 1990 was $60.1 million, against $55.0 million for the same period last year. Weeks compensated through August 1990 totalled 292,350 compared to 279,600 in 1989 (a 5 percent rise). The higher average weekly benefit amount combined with the increase in compensated weeks accounted for the rise in total outlay this year.

Total Unemployment Benefits Paid
District of Columbia
August 1989 - August 1990



Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
August 1990

				% Change From	
	Aug. 1990	July 1990	Aug. 1989	July 1990	Aug. 1989
State UI Program a/					
Initial Claims Taken	3,544	3,734	2,794	-5.1	+26.8
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	39,094	38,302	36,340	+2.1	+7.6
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	41,538	37,159	34,614	+11.8	+20.0
Total Benefits Paid	$8,829,583	$7,667,690	$6,790,980	+15.2	+30.0
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$212.57	$206.35	$196.19	+6.2	+8.3
Number of First Payments	2,664	2,366	1,832	+12.6	+45.4
Number of Final Payments	980	1,038	628	+5.6	-4.7
Total Beneficiaries	10,878	9,969	9,057	+9.1	+20.1
Federal Program b/					
Initial Claims Taken	95	117	93	-18.8	+2.2
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	1,833	1,725	2,468	+6.3	-25.7
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,055	1,750	2,878	+17.4	-28.6
Total Benefits Paid	$478,347	$404,011	$680,886	+18.4	-29.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$232.77	$230.86	$236.58	+0.8	-1.6
Number of First Payments	138	106	135	+30.2	+2.2
Number of Final Payments	60	44	87	+36.4	-31.0
Total Beneficiaries	525	450	725	+16.7	-27.6
Ex-Servicepersons Program c/					
Initial Claims Taken	38	43	34	-11.6	+11.8
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	323	346	328	-6.6	-1.5
Weeks of Unemployment Compesated	254	282	282	-9.9	-9.9
Total Benefits Paid	$51,943	$56,735	$58,959	-8.4	-11.9
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$204.50	$201.19	$209.07	+1.6	-2.2
Number of First Payments	33	21	32	+57.1	+3.1
Number of Final Payments	10	22	118	-54.5	-44.4
Total Beneficiaries	79	82	86	-3.7	-8.1
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	3,677	3,894	2,921	-5.6	+25.9
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	41,250	40,373	39,136	+2.2	+5.4
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	43,847	39,191	37,774	+11.9	+16.1
Total Benefits Paid	$9,359,873	$8,128,436	$7,530,825	+15.1	+24.3
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$213.47	$207.41	$199.37	+2.9	+7.1
Number of First Payments	2,835	2,493	1,999	+13.7	+41.8
Number of Final Payments	1,050	1,104	1,133	-4.9	-7.3
Total Beneficiaries	11,482	10,501	9,868	+9.3	+16.4

a/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or **Unemployment Compensation for** Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

b/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Serviceperson (UCX).

c/ No joint claims.

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for August 1990 dropped $1.43. Average Weekly Hours decreased .3 hour, as Average Hourly Earnings were up 6 cents.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Stone, Clay and Glass Products' had a decrease in Weekly Earnings of $39.59 and a decrease in Weekly Hours of 1.7 hours. The Hourly Earnings dropped 45 cents, all due to less overtime being worked. Electric Machinery, Equipment and Supplies, on the other hand, had an across-the-board increase due to more overtime being worked. Weekly Earnings, Weekly Hours and Hourly Earnings increased $11.17, .2 hour and 21 cents, respectively.

In the Non-Durable Goods Sector, Food and Kindred Products' shows Weekly Earnings and Hourly Earnings rose $15.01 and 91 cents, respectively, because of overtime. However, the Weekly Hours show a drop of 2.2 hours due to employees being on paid vacation or other paid leave.

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
August 1990

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Aug. 1990	July 1990	Aug. 1989	Aug. 1990	July 1990	Aug. 1989	Aug. 1990	July 1990	Aug. 1989
Total Manufacturing	494.22	495.65	468.06	39.1	39.4	39.3	12.64	12.58	11.91
Durable Goods	523.67	526.11	499.10	42.3	42.6	43.1	12.38	12.35	11.58
Stone Clay & Glass Products	492.59	532.18	537.53	43.4	45.1	46.1	11.35	11.80	11.66
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	495.01	483.84	447.63	42.2	42.0	43.0	11.73	11.52	10.41
Other Durable Goods	538.46	538.90	505.83	42.1	42.3	42.4	12.79	12.74	11.93
Non-Durable Goods	471.04	472.49	443.95	36.6	37.0	36.3	12.87	12.77	12.23
Food & Kindred Products	461.32	446.31	432.22	41.3	43.5	41.4	11.17	10.26	10.44
Printing & Publishing	489.24	492.44	464.09	34.6	34.9	34.2	14.14	14.11	13.57
Other Non-Durable Goods	401.10	403.97	376.07	42.4	42.3	41.1	9.46	9.55	9.15
Total Production Workers		Aug. 1990			July 1990			Aug. 1989	
		41,800			41,800			41,500	

Employers!

If you're interested in filling job openings, call the Department of Employment Services, EMPLOYER SERVICES CENTER and ask about:

Positive Recruitment

We will be happy to:

ADVERTISE YOUR VACANCIES throughout the Metropolitan Area

PRE-SCREEN APPLICANTS to match their qualifications with your requirements

PRE-TEST APPLICANTS for general aptitudes or specific clerical skills

PROVIDE INTERVIEWING SPACE and assistance at your convenience.

We call this service POSITIVE RECRUITMENT. It gets positive results, it's effective, and it costs you nothing!

Several major employers use our service for continuous recruitment. They visit our offices weekly to interview applicants for their job openings.

We're here to help YOU. Call the Employer Services Center at 639-1601, or 1602 and ask about POSITIVE RECRUITMENT. It works!

Department of Employment Services
Government of the
District of Columbia
Marion Barry Jr., Mayor

S1527-3

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR SEPTEMBER 1990

NOVEMBER 1990

Private Sector Job Creation Negative In September

Area Unemployment Now 3.5%—D.C. 6.8%

Labor Force

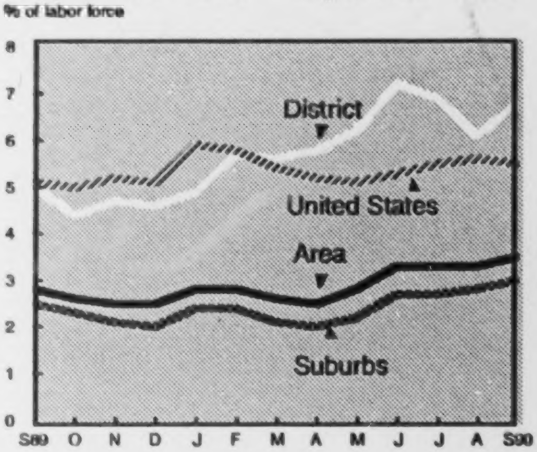
In September, the unemployment rate in the District rose to 6.8 percent of the labor force, up from 6.1 percent in August. The rates for the suburbs and for the Area also advanced to new highs for the year. The suburban rate moved from 2.9 percent in August to 3.0 percent in September. The Area rate rose from 3.3 percent to 3.5 percent. This marks the fourth consecutive month that the Area's rate has been above 3 percent.

The unadjusted September rate for all civilian workers in the United States was 5.5 percent. This represents the eighth consecutive month that the District's rate has been above that for the nation.

The District

Between August and September both the number of District residents in the labor force and the number with jobs declined. As a result, the unemployment rate rose. This was a fairly common pattern for the month of September. During the past 10 years, the District's unemployment rate in September has increased in seven years, declined twice and remained unchanged once.

Unemployment Rates
September 1989 - September 1990



The over-the-year measurements, however, signal significant changes. Compared to September 1989, there were 21,900 fewer District residents on employer payrolls this year, an over-the-year drop of 7.8 percent. Part of the relatively large decrease in jobholders can be traced to an additional 4,400 persons on the jobless rolls. The remainder is traceable to a 17,400-person decline in the labor force, a reduction of 5.8 percent.

Continued on page 3

Government of the
District of Columbia
Marion Barry, Jr., Mayor

JOB SERVICE

Department of
Employment Services
F. Alexis H. Roberson
Director

The

Department

of

Employment

Services

Working

to

keep

Washington

working.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR SEPTEMBER 1990 NOVEMBER 1990

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Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

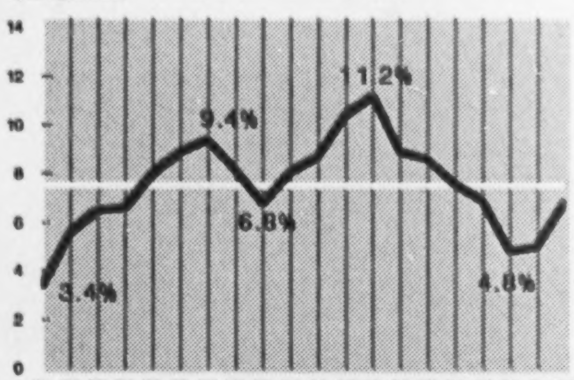
Continued from page 1

There are many ways in which the labor force can decline. Some unemployed workers have difficulty in locating employment, because of their disappointments, they simply stop looking for work. Other workers retire, some become ill or disabled, and some die. Some leave the labor force for school, some to raise families and some to take care of ill relatives. Still others move from the City, while they may remain employed, they are no longer counted among the City's labor force, because they no longer reside in the District.

On a monthly basis, there are no official statistics that estimate these kinds of changes in the labor force. However, annual averages from the Current Population Survey (CPS) for 1989 indicate that about 20 percent of the District residents who were not in the labor force were "keeping house," about 14 percent were "in school" and about 4 percent were "unable to work." The remainder (about 60 percent) were classified as "other." More than half this "other" group were 65 years old or older, thus, presumably retired. Even on an annual basis, however, there is no measure taken of labor market discouragement below the national level. But discouragement undoubtedly increases when unemployment begins to expand as is currently happening in the District and the Washington Area.

For the past several years, the U.S. Census Bureau has been reporting declines in their estimates for the population in the District. Background data on the District from the Census Bureau's monthly household survey this year indicates that the Census is continuing the population decline. Thus, the recent monthly declines in the size of the District's labor force probably reflect both a shrinkage in population and an increase in labor market discouragement.

District Unemployment Rates In the Month of September 1971 - 1990



Average Rate for August: 7.5%

The Area & Suburbs

The monthly September labor market pattern in the suburbs was similar to that in the District. The suburban labor force and employment declined and unemployment and the unemployment rate increased. In the suburbs, the labor force shrunk by 15,500 workers, while the number of suburbanites with jobs fell by 17,400. As in the District, most of the decline from jobs resulted in withdrawals from the labor force as summer workers returned to non-work activities. However, the unemployment rolls in the suburbs also

Continued on page 4

Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C., MSA by City and County

	Sept.a/ 1990	Aug.b/ 1990	Sept.b/ 1989
District of Columbia	**6.8**	**6.1**	**5.0**
Frederick County	5.0	4.8	2.6
Calvert County	4.2	4.2	3.2
Prince Georges Cty.	4.1	3.9	3.4
Alexandria City	3.3	3.2	2.4
Stafford County	3.3	2.9	1.8
Charles County	3.0	3.2	2.4
Montgomery County	2.8	2.7	2.4
Arlington County	2.6	2.5	2.1
Prince William County	2.4	2.4	2.0
Fairfax County	2.2	2.1	1.8
Manassas City	2.2	2.3	1.4
Loudoun County	1.7	1.7	1.6
Falls Church City	1.7	2.1	1.5
Manassas Park City	1.7	2.2	1.4
Fairfax City	1.6	1.9	1.8

a/ Preliminary. b/ Revised.

SOURCE: The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department Employment Development, and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Continued from page 3

increased by 1,900 which was enough to push the unemployment rate up a marginal tenth of a percentage point to 3.0 percent in September.

Over the year, the suburban labor force actually grew by 28,700 new workers. Unlike most months in the past few years, the job market was unable to absorb all the new workers. Only 16,700 additional new employees were added to local payrolls—a yearly increase of only nine-tenths of a percentage point. As a result, there were 12,100 more suburbanites without jobs this September as compared to September of last year. This represents a 26 percent increase in suburban unemployment. These over-the-year changes produced a significant six-tenths of a percentage point increase in the suburban unemployment rate and pushed the rate to 3.0 percent for the first time since 1986.

Combined District and suburban activities in September caused the Area's labor force to decline by 18,000 between August and September reflecting a 21,700-person employment decline and an increase of 3,600 in the jobless pool for the Area.

Over the year, growth in the suburban labor force offset the decline in the District to produce an 11,300-person increase in the Area's labor supply. Due to the large employment loss in the District, the number of Area workers with jobs actually declined by 5,200. As a result of the small increase in the Area's labor supply and the decline in employment, the unemployment rolls increased by 16,500 persons, an increase of 27 percent. **Seven of every ten persons added to the Area's expanded pool of unemployed over the year were suburbanites.** These labor market changes induced a significant seven-tenths of a percent increase in the Area's unemployment rate and moved it up from 2.8 percent in September 1989 to 3.5 percent this last September. The last time the rate was 3.5 percent was in February 1987, some 43 months ago. However, at 3.5 percent, the Area's rate is two full percentage points below the U.S. rate and one of the lowest among major metropolitan areas. Thus, the local labor market is beginning to show some improvement from the very tight supply conditions experienced over the past several years. A positive note in a declining market.

Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA
September 1990a/

	Sept. b/ 1990	Aug. c/ 1990	Sept. d/ 1989	Aug. d/ 1989	Net Change From Aug. 1990	Net Change From Sept. 1989
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	295,400	297,900	312,800	315,900	-2,500	-17,400
Total Employed	275,400	279,700	297,300	300,900	-4,300	-21,900
Total Unemployed	19,900	18,200	15,500	15,000	1,700	4,400
Unemployment Rate e/	6.8	6.1	5.0	4.7	0.7	1.8
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,925,100	1,940,600	1,896,400	1,936,400	-15,500	28,700
Total Employed	1,867,300	1,884,700	1,850,600	1,893,500	-17,400	16,700
Total Unemployed	57,900	56,000	45,800	42,900	1,900	12,100
Unemployment Rate e/	3.0	2.9	2.4	2.2	0.1	0.6
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,220,500	2,238,500	2,209,200	2,252,300	-18,000	11,300
Total Employed	2,142,700	2,164,400	2,147,900	2,194,400	-21,700	-5,200
Total Unemployed	77,800	74,200	61,300	57,900	3,600	16,500
Unemployment Rate e/	3.5	3.3	2.8	2.6	0.2	0.7

a/ Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding. b/ Preliminary. c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions. e/ Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia, the Virginia Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, Frederick, and Calvert.

Labor Force Distribution
Washington Metropolitan Area
September 1990 & September 1989
(percent)

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
		September 1990	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.3	12.9	25.6
Suburbs	86.7	87.1	74.4
		September 1989	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	14.2	13.8	25.3
Suburbs	85.8	86.2	74.7

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

The number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits in the District of Columbia totaled 9,239 in September 1990 down 2,293 claimants from August, but up 788 from September 1989. In September 1990, 53 percent of all UI claimants were males. Occupationally, clerical and sales accounted for 28 percent of the total claimants. Professional, technical and managerial workers accounted for 27 percent and service workers 19 percent.

The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 10.0 weeks for all claimants in September. Over the month, the duration for males rose from 9.5 weeks to 10.1 weeks. For females, the duration also increased from 9.0 weeks to 9.9 weeks. In September 1989, the average duration was 10.4 weeks for both males and females.

Job Growth

The District

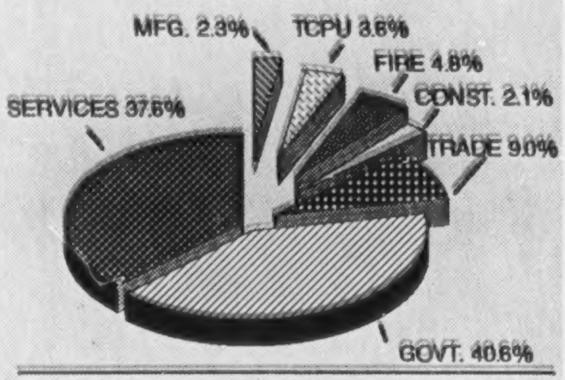
The number of jobs in the District increased by 1,800 for a gain of 0.3 percent between August and September. The private sector was responsible for the increase with primarily seasonal gains in Services (3,200 jobs) related to the start of the new school year. These gains are reflected in the substantial increase in Educational Services (2,400 jobs).

The public sector declined by 200 with a seasonal loss in Federal Government (2,100 jobs) partially offset by a seasonal increase in State and Local Government (1,900 jobs).

Over the year (September 1989 to September 1990), the number of District jobs declined 0.1 percent for a loss of 700 jobs. **The private sector decreased at a rate of 0.7 percent for a loss of 2,900 jobs.** The primary job loser, Trade, accounted for 59 percent of the private sector decrease with a loss of 1,700 jobs. Significant private sector losses also occurred in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (600 jobs).

The public sector increased at a rate of 2.2 percent with gains in both State and Local Government (1,100 jobs) and Federal Government (1,100 jobs).

Distribution of District Jobs
November 1990



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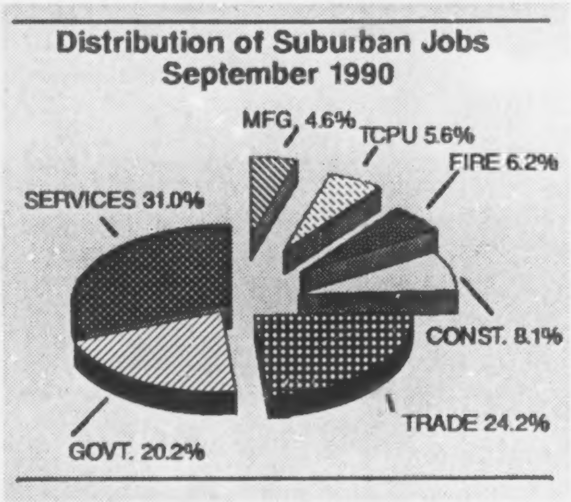
The Suburbs

The number of suburban jobs increased 0.3 percent for a gain of 3,900 jobs between August and September. The public sector was primarily responsible for the gain with a seasonal increase in State and Local Government (16,600 jobs) partially offset by a decline in Federal Government (1,300 jobs). The Maryland suburbs accounted for 73 percent of the growth in State and Local Government while the Virginia suburbs were responsible for the loss in Federal Government.

The private sector declined by 11,400 jobs with losses primarily in Services (4,800 jobs), Trade (3,200 jobs), Construction (1,700 jobs) and Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate (1,300 jobs). The Maryland suburbs accounted for 64 percent of the losses in Services and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate while the Virginia suburbs were responsible for 63 percent of the losses in Construction and Trade.

Over the year (September 1989 to September 1990), suburban jobs grew at a rate of 0.4 percent for a gain of 5,900 jobs. **The Maryland suburbs grew at a rate of 1.0 percent accounting for all of the suburban growth while the Virginia suburbs decreased at a rate of 0.2 percent.**

Distribution of Suburban Jobs September 1990



The public sector accounted for the growth in suburban jobs with a gain in State and Local Government (11,300 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (1,400 jobs) resulting in growth over the year of 3.2 percent. Sixty-nine percent of the growth in government occured in the Maryland suburbs.

The private sector declined by 0.3 percent with growth in the service-producing sector (10,600 jobs) offset by a decline in the goods-producing sector (14,600 jobs). The primary job gainers were Trade (6,500 jobs) and Services (3,400 jobs) while job losses were primarily concentrated in Construction (12,500 jobs). Seventy-one percent of the growth as well as 93 percent of the decline in these industries occurred in the Virginia suburbs. The Virginia suburbs were also responsible for 94 percent of the growth in Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (1,700 jobs) while the Maryland suburbs accounted for two-thirds of the loss in Manufacturing (2,100 jobs).

The Area

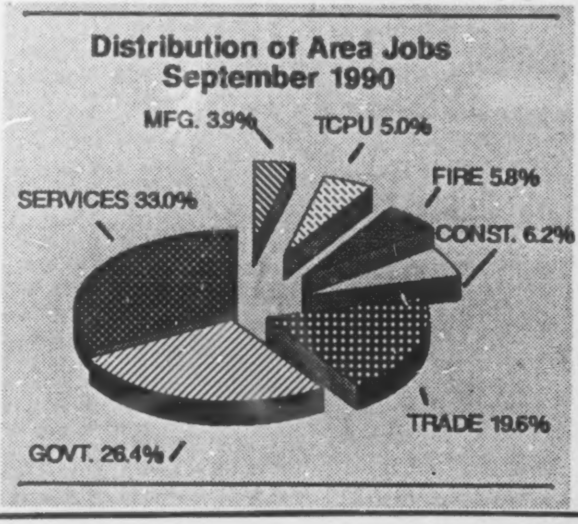
The Washington Metropolitan Area gained 5,700 jobs between August and September for an increase of 0.3 percent. The public sector was responsible for the growth with seasonal gains in State and Local Government (18,500 jobs) partially offset by a seasonal loss in Federal Government (2,800 jobs).

The private sector declined by 0.6 percent with losses primarily in Trade (3,700 jobs), Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,800 jobs), Construction (1,600 jobs) and Services (1,600 jobs).

Over the year (September 1989 to September

Continued on page 7

Distribution of Area Jobs September 1990



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1990), the Area grew at a rate of 0.2 percent for a gain of 5,200 jobs. The public sector grew at a rate of 2.1 percent, generating 12,100 jobs and accounting for all of the new area jobs as gains in State and Local Government (12,400 jobs) were partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (300 jobs).

The private sector declined at a rate of 0.4 percent for a loss of 6,900 jobs. The job losses were concentrated in Construction (12,700 jobs), Manufacturing (2,200 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,600 jobs) while job growth occurred in Trade (4,800 jobs), Services (3,200 jobs) and Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities (1,600 jobs).

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a]
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	Sept.[b] 1990	Aug.[c] 1990	Sept.[d] 1989	Sept.[b] 1990	Aug.[c] 1990	Sept.[d] 1989
TOTAL	**683.1**	**681.3**	**683.8**	**2,246.6**	**2,240.9**	**2,241.4**
Total Private Sector	**406.1**	**404.1**	**409.0**	**1,653.3**	**1,662.7**	**1,660.2**
Total Government	**277.0**	**277.2**	**274.8**	**593.3**	**578.2**	**581.2**
Total Goods Producing	**30.4**	**30.5**	**30.7**	**229.2**	**231.7**	**244.1**
Manufacturing	**16.0**	**16.2**	**16.1**	**87.9**	**88.8**	**90.1**
Total Durables	2.4	2.5	2.4	41.6	42.1	44.2
Stone, Clay, Glass Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.1	3.2	3.5
Electronic & Electric Equip.	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.0	17.0	17.3
All Other Durable	N/A	N/A	N/A	21.5	21.9	23.4
Total Non-Durable	13.6	13.7	13.7	46.3	46.7	45.9
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	4.7	4.7	4.9
Printing & Publishing	12.9	13.0	13.0	35.7	36.1	35.2
All Other Non-Durable	0.4	0.4	0.4	5.9	5.9	5.8
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**1.1**	**1.1**	**1.1**
Construction	**14.3**	**14.2**	**14.5**	**140.2**	**141.8**	**152.9**
Total Service Producing	**652.7**	**650.8**	**653.1**	**2,017.4**	**2,009.2**	**1,997.3**
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	**24.6**	**24.7**	**24.7**	**112.4**	**112.2**	**110.8**
All Transportation	9.7	9.8	9.8	57.5	57.3	56.0
Railroads	4.2	4.2	4.1	5.3	5.3	5.3
Transportation ex. Railroad	5.5	5.6	5.7	52.2	52.0	50.7
Communications & Public Utilities	14.9	14.9	14.9	54.9	54.9	54.8
Trade	**61.2**	**61.7**	**62.9**	**439.9**	**443.6**	**435.1**
Wholesale	8.2	8.2	8.4	77.8	78.3	78.8
Retail	53.0	53.5	54.5	362.1	365.3	356.3
General Merchandise	N/A	N/A	N/A	39.4	39.5	39.7
Food Stores	N/A	N/A	N/A	53.0	53.4	50.3
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	38.8	39.1	39.1
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	26.1	26.0	27.1
Eating & Drinking Places	27.0	27.5	27.7	117.5	119.8	115.6
All Other Retail	26.0	26.0	26.8	87.3	87.5	84.5

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Continued from page 7

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a]

(in thousands)

INDUSTRY	District of Columbia Sept.[b] 1990	District of Columbia Aug.[c] 1989	District of Columbia Sept.[d] 1989	Metropolitan Area Sept.[b] 1990	Metropolitan Area Aug.[c] 1989	Metropolitan Area Sept.[d] 1989
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**32.8**	**33.3**	**33.4**	**129.9**	**131.7**	**131.5**
Finance	15.6	16.0	16.0	60.1	61.2	60.7
Depository Institutions	8.5	9.0	9.1	39.0	39.9	39.3
Other Finance	7.1	7.0	6.9	21.1	21.3	21.4
Insurance	7.4	7.4	7.6	26.7	26.8	26.8
Real Estate	9.8	9.9	9.8	43.1	43.7	44.0
Eating & Drinking Places	28.0	28.4	28.1	120.3	119.6	119.4
All Other Retail	26.2	27.0	26.7	87.9	88.4	85.7
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**33.5**	**33.5**	**33.6**	**132.6**	**132.5**	**132.8**
Finance	16.0	16.0	16.1	61.7	61.8	61.3
Depository Institutions	9.0	9.0	9.2	40.4	40.4	39.8
Other Finance	7.0	7.0	6.9	21.3	21.4	21.5
Insurance	7.5	7.5	7.6	26.8	26.8	26.9
Real Estate	10.0	10.0	9.9	44.1	43.9	44.6
Services	**257.1**	**253.9**	**257.3**	**741.9**	**743.5**	**738.7**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	17.1	16.3	16.8	37.6	36.8	36.8
Personal Services	3.2	3.2	3.4	22.5	22.6	22.5
Business Services	39.6	39.0	41.4	181.3	181.9	181.4
Services to Buildings	14.8	14.6	15.7	N/A	N/A	N/A
Personnel Supply	8.3	8.1	9.8	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	6.3	6.2	6.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Business Services	10.2	10.1	9.9	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	36.8	36.9	37.2	114.4	114.4	112.0
Legal Services	29.9	30.6	29.0	40.9	41.8	39.7
Educational Services	31.1	28.7	31.0	44.2	40.8	44.4
Social Services	12.3	12.3	12.1	34.0	34.1	33.2
Membership Organizations	34.0	33.8	32.7	60.1	60.3	58.5
Engineering/Management Ser.	43.1	43.5	43.6	142.7	144.4	146.0
All Other Services	10.0	9.6	10.1	64.2	66.4	64.2
Government	**277.0**	**277.2**	**274.8**	**593.3**	**578.2**	**581.2**
Federal Government	221.0	223.1	219.9	365.7	369.1	366.0
State & Local Government	56.0	54.1	54.9	227.6	209.1	215.2
State Government	51.2	49.3	50.1	81.1	74.2	78.5
Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	146.5	134.9	136.7
Public Transportation	4.6	4.8	4.8	N/A	N/A	N/A

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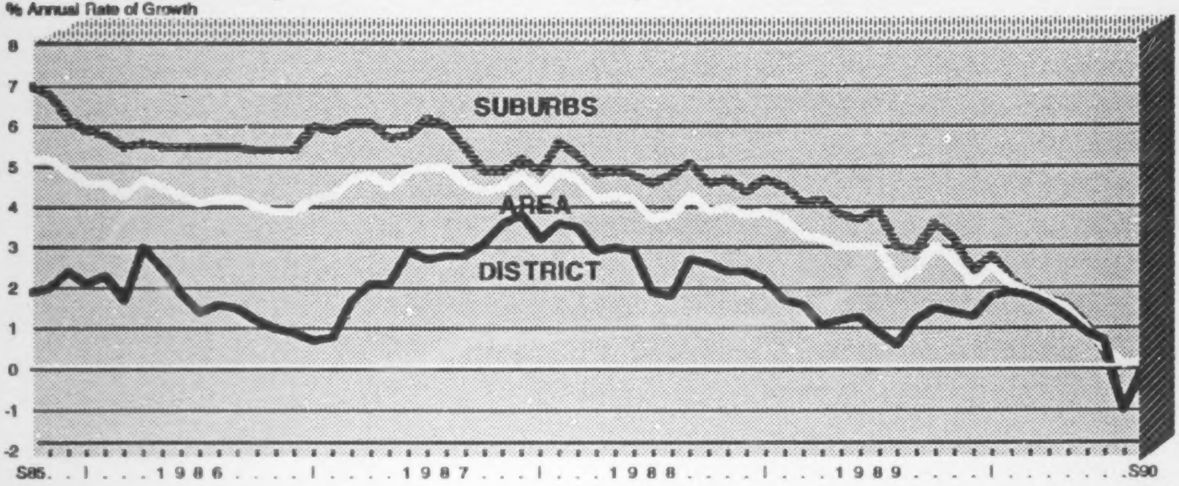
a/ Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. b/ Preliminary. c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions.

Data includes all full-and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

SOURCE: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Monthly Over-The-Year Rate of Job Growth
September 1985 - September 1990



Area Job Growth Rates

Over the past five years (September 1985 to September 1990), the Washington Area has created new jobs at a rate of 3.7 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has declined from a peak of 5.4 percent in September 1985. **Between September 1989 and September 1990, the Area's job growth slowed to just two-tenths of a percentage point. The over-the-year rate for this past September was down sharply from the 2.4 percent recorded in September of last year.**

During September, suburban over-the-year growth also measured a very modest four-tenths of a percent, down significantly from the 2.9 percent registered in September 1989. Job growth in the District declined one-tenth of a percentage point over the year, compared to growth of 1.2 percent recorded in September of last year.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from 99,200 new jobs produced between September 1985, to just 5,200 between September 1989 and September 1990. Over the past year, 5,900 new jobs were added to the Suburban economy, while the District lost 700 jobs. **The Washington Area is creating new jobs at an even slower pace than the sluggish U.S. economy (0.2 percent vs. 1.5 percent for the U.S. economy).** This is the eighth consecutive month that the local job growth rate has been below the U.S. rate.

Note: It should be recognized that the monthly estimates of jobs are subject to annual benchmark revisions. These revisions can be plus or minus one percent or more, a range well within the current measurements of change.

Profile of Job Growth Rates
September 1985 to September 1990

The Area	
Average 60 months	3.7%
High, September 1985	5.4%
Low, August 1990	0.1%
1-year ago	2.4%
Last month	0.1%
Current month	0.2%
The Suburbs	
Average 60 months	4.5%
High, October 1985	7.0%
Low, September 1990	0.4%
1-year ago	2.9%
Last month	0.6%
Current month	0.4%
The District	
Average 60 months	1.9%
High, December 1987	3.8%
Low, August 1990	−1.0%
1-year ago	1.2%
Last month	−1.0%
Current month	−0.1%

Note: Data reflects benchmark revisions for 1988-1989.

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT PROFILE:

Jobs in the Washington Area During the Downside of Business Cycles

Since January, the creation of new jobs in the Washington Metropolitan Area has fallen from an annual rate of 2.5 percent to 0.2 percent in September. This local pattern reflects similar declines all along the East Coast and economists are debating if the United States itself has entered into a recession. This Profile of local jobs examines total job creation in the United States, the Washington Area, the District and its suburbs during the three most recent national recessions. It reviews the length and depth of local job losses during the downside of business cycles. The data used in this Profile are monthly counts of jobs from the Non-Agricultural Wage and Salary Employment statistical time series commonly referred to as the "Monthly Establishment Survey."

The Recession of 1973-1975

During the 1970's, the American economy experienced a single 16-month long recession which began in November 1973 and extended to March 1975 (See Chart No. 1). During recessions, job growth tends to be an indicator which lags behind the turning points in the business cycle. In a downturn, employers generally implement a host of measures to reduce production or control costs before layoffs occur. This lag tendency in job decline was very clear in the national economy during the 1973-1975 recession.

At the beginning of the recession in November 1973, the U.S. economy was actually creating total new jobs at a healthy annual rate of 4.0 percent. New job creation continued to be positive, but declined during the first 12 months of the recession. It was not until the 13th month of the recession (December 1974), when the national economy actually lost its first jobs. The start of the first job losses occurred only four months before the official end of the recession in March 1975. However, The American economy continued to lose jobs for eight additional months **after** the recession officially ended. Thus as a result of the 1973-1975 recession, the national economy lost jobs for a total of 12 consecutive months. The peak period of losses occurred between June 1974 and June 1975 when 2.1 million jobs were reported lost, an over-the-year decrease of 2.6 percent.

Locally, The Washington Area was creating new jobs at the beginning of the 1973-1975 recession, in November 1973, at an annual rate of 3.2 percent, slightly lower than the 4.0 percent for the U.S. economy. Although the Area job growth rate generally declined throughout the full 16 months of the national recession, new job creation continued to be positive. It was not until May 1975, two months **after** the national recessions officially ended, that the Area started to report over-the-year job losses. These losses lasted for four months. By September 1975, the Area started to produce net new jobs and the local recovery was under way. During the four months of job losses, the peak loss occurred in July 1975 when the job market lost 4,800 jobs. This represented a job loss of only 0.4 of a percentage point, not a very substantial loss.

At the beginning of the recession, the District was producing over-the-year new job growth at a modest rate of 0.2 percent. The City had demonstrated job losses in early 1973, before the national recession began. However, for the first 14 months of the official national recession, the District actually created new jobs. In October 1974, when the national recession was nearing its end, the City was producing new jobs at a relatively strong rate of 2.1 percent. District job growth did not actually turn negative until February 1975, just **two months before** the official end of the national recession. However, once the District began reporting negative job growth, it continued for eleven consecutive months, or until January 1976, some nine months after the end of the U.S. recession. The peak job loss occurred in November 1975 when the District recorded a net over-the-year loss of 9,100 jobs, a decline of 1.6 percent. However, a full recovery in the District did not immediately follow due to a

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second period of over-the-year job losses which lasted from June 1976 to March 1977, a period of 10 consecutive months. This second period of job losses ended some 24 months after the national recession ended.

During the official period of the 1973-to-1975 recession, the Washington suburbs showed absolutely no job losses. At the beginning of the recession in November 1973, the suburbs were producing jobs at a very strong over-the-year rate of 5.5 percent. In September 1974, the job creation rate declined to 0.5 percent, reflecting a strike in the food processing industry, not due to the recession. **After** the recession ended in March 1975, the suburban economy demonstrated a four month period of very slow growth from May 1975 to August 1975. In August, job growth netted only 600 new jobs, a growth of only 0.1 percent. Suburban jobs then quickly rebounded and one year later (August 1976), the suburbs were producing yearly new jobs at a healthy rate of 3.9 percent.

1980 Recession

During 1980, the U.S. economy again slipped into a short recession. This downturn lasted only six month, beginning in January 1980 and ending in July 1980 (See Chart No. 2). This recession produced 5 months of negative or zero over-the-year national job growth. The negative growth started in June 1980, **4 months after** the recession commenced, and ended in October 1980, 3 months after the recession ended. The peak job loss during the 5 months occurred in July 1980 when national over-the-year job losses numbered 2.1 million.

Job growth in the Washington Area was not impacted by the 1980 recession. The Area showed a job creation rate of 2.8 percent at the beginning of the recession (January 1980) and 2.6 percent at the end of the recession (July 1980). In the District, there were no job losses during the six months of the recession. Two months later in September 1980, the District recorded a single month of job declines of 0.9 percent.

Suburban job creation remained strong throughout the short recession measuring 4.2 percent at the beginning in January 1980 and 3.8 percent at the end in July 1980.

1982-1983 Recession

The short 1980 U.S. recession was quickly followed by a longer and deeper recession of 16 months duration. The downturn began in July 1981 and ended in November 1982 (See Chart No. 2). This recession demonstrated a much shorter job lag period than the 1973-1975 recession. The U.S. economy reported over-the-year job losses in December 1981, just **4 months after the recession started.** The American job losses lasted for 18 consecutive months, or until May 1983, some 6 months after the recession ended. The peak job decline occurred in October 1982 when the U.S. job market recorded an over-the-year job loss of 2.4 million.

In December 1982, the Washington Area began reporting job losses simultaneously with those in the nation. This was just **4 months after the recession started.** The duration of job losses in the Area was shorter than in the United States, lasting for 12 consecutive months, 6 months shorter than for the nation. In the Area, the peak over-the-year job losses occurred in August 1982, when a loss of 24,300 jobs was reported, a decline of 1.5 percent.

In the District, the duration of job declines during this period was very extensive, lasting for 27 consecutive months. In fact, job losses in the City actually began in April 1981, **3/ months before** the official start of the national recession in July 1981. Positive job growth in the District did not re-appear until July 1983, or 7 months after the end of the recession and one month after the first positive job growth was reported in the U.S. economy. The peak District job loss was reported between January 1981 and January 1982 at 17,600 lost jobs, a significant decline of 2.9 percent.

Compared to the District, job losses in the suburbs during the 1981-1982 recession were very minimal. The first suburban losses were not reported until April 1982, **8 months after the recession started,** 4 months after the U.S. and Area economies started losing jobs, and 12 full

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months after the first job losses in the District. These suburban job losses lasted for only 6 months, from April 1982 through September 1982. At its maximum, suburban job losses in April 1982 represented only a half a percent, or 9,400 jobs.

The job recovery from the 1981-1982 recession was steep and rapid. By December 1983, some 12 months after the recession, the U.S. economy was creating new over-the-year jobs at a rate of 3.8 percent. The Washington Area was doing even better with a job creation rate of 5.1 percent, led by a very strong suburban surge of 7.3 percent, and the District adding new jobs at a rate of 1.1 percent.

The Current Situation

Since the end of the last recession, the nation and the Washington Area have experienced seven years of very strong job creation. As reported monthly in the *Area Labor Summary*, the rate of growth in the Washington Area has been steadily declining since about mid-1987. In January of this year, local job creation rates were still relatively strong. However, in February, the job creation rates for the Area, the District and the suburbs all converged and began a rapid decline to below one percent. The District began reporting actual job losses in August of this year and the suburbs are producing virtually no new jobs (See Chart No. 3).

Observations

As other Departmental studies have indicated.[1], the Washington Area's economy and job market does indeed show sensitivity to swings in the business cycle and national recessions. This study utilizes monthly data rather than annual averages and tends to confirm the earlier finding. **That being clearly, the Washington Area is not and has never been "recession proof."**

Perhaps, the local recession-proof myth developed because the suburban portion of the Area economy was not significantly impacted by the past three recessions. Even though suburban job losses were slight and the duration short, the suburban job market did clearly demonstrate the downward cyclical swings in the rate of job creation common to all recessionary periods.

Given the past lag relationship between the start of a recession and the start of negative job growth, it appears as if the U.S. economy may either be in a recession or one is about to begin. It also appears that for the first time the Washington Area will probably lead the national economy in reporting negative job growth.

The most apparent and significant differences between the current and past patterns are the recent convergence of falling job growth rates in the Area, the District and the Suburbs. This has not occurred in past cycles. This convergence indicates that in the current downturn the Washington suburbs are experiencing slow job growth to a much greater extent than in the past. The District suffered the bulk of Area job losses during the earlier recessions. This will not likely be the case in this downturn.

Without the counterbalancing suburban job growth evident in past recessions, the bottomside of the current Washington Area business cycle may be deeper and the duration longer than in the past. The impact of this business cycle is likely to be broader and felt across the entire Washington Area.

It should be remembered that the downside of a business cycle is followed by a recovery period that usually provides opportunities for a strong and a rather sustained period of job growth. Given the diverse services industry base of the local economy and the presence of the Federal Government, it is likely that local growth will again be significant through the latter part of the 1990's, though less rapid than during the boom period of the 1980's. Over the past forty years, the local economy has continually created new jobs at a more rapid rate of growth than the U.S. economy and this feature should re-emerge in the future.

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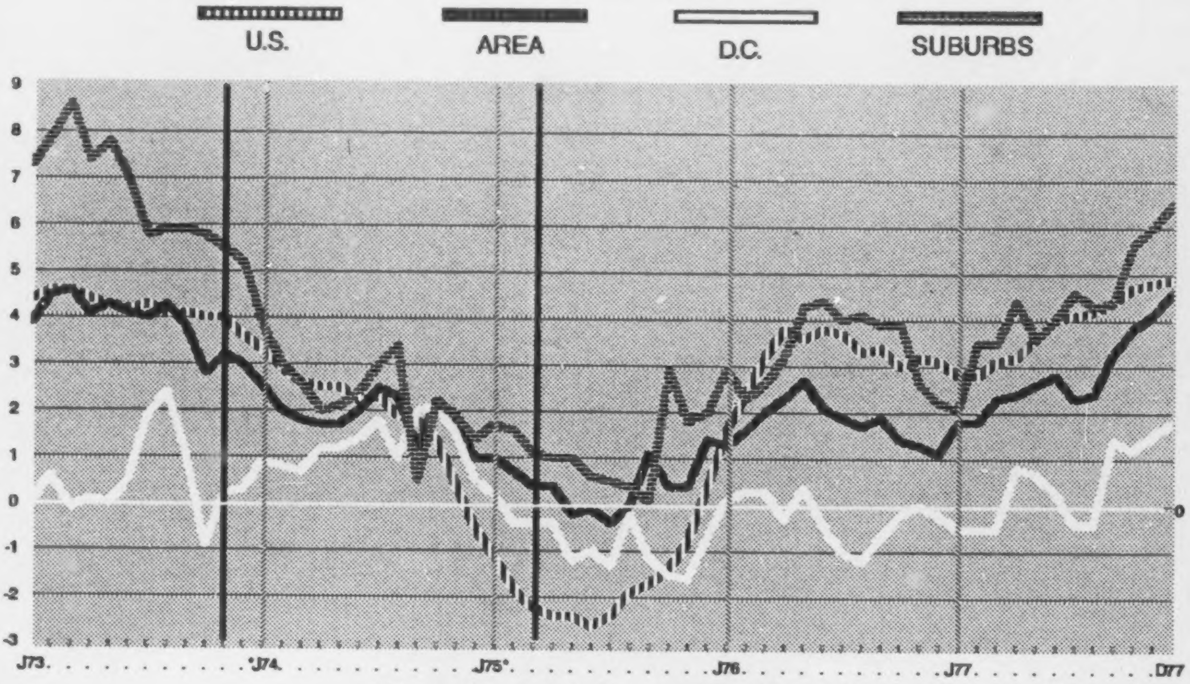
[1] See for example, *Area Labor Summary*, "Industrial Profile: Washington Area Construction Jobs—1949 to 1989," May 1990, PP. 10-14.

Continued on page 13

Continued from page 12

	Length of Recession	Lag Between Start of Recession & Job Losses	Length of Job Losses	Maximum Job Loss	Percent Job Loss
1973-1975					
United States	16 mos.	12 mos.	12 mos.	2.1 million	2.6
Washington Area	na	17 mos.	4 mos.	4.8 thousand	0.4
District	na	14 mos.	11 mos.	9.1 thousand	1.6
Suburbs	na	none	none	none	none
1980					
United States	6 mos.	4 mos.	5 mos.	2.1 million	2.3
Washington Area	na	none	none	none	none
District	na	none	none	none	none
Suburbs	na	none	none	none	none
1981-1982					
United States	16 mos.	4 mos.	18 mos.	2.4 million	2.6
Washington Area	na	4 mos.	12 mos.	24.3 thousand	1.5
District	na	4 mos. before	27 mos.	17.6 thousand	2.9
Suburbs	na	8 mos.	6 mos.	9.4 thousand	0.9

Chart #1 1973 - 1975 Recession
Monthly Over-The-Year Rate Of Job Growth



* November 1973 to March 1975: 16 Months

Continued on page 14

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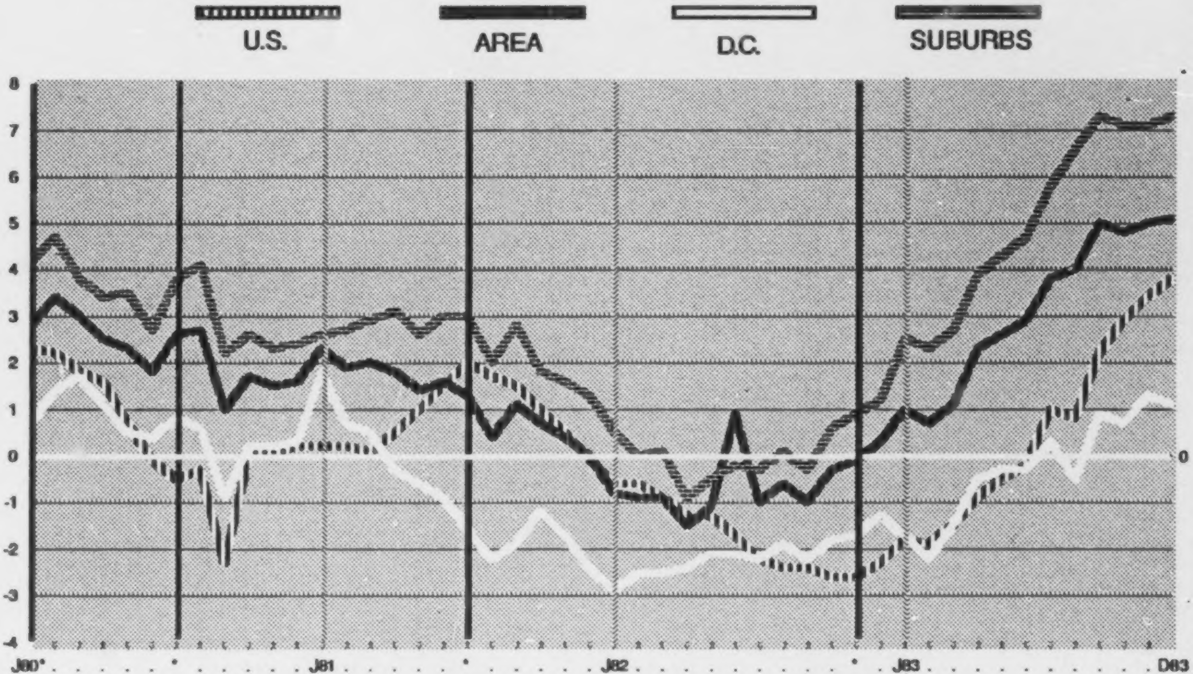
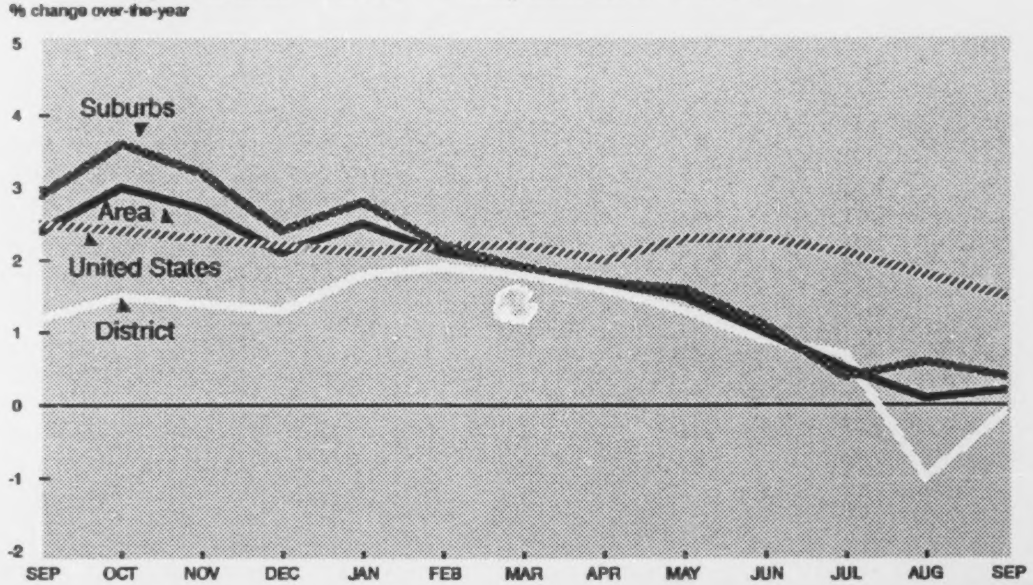
Chart #2 1980, 1981 - 1982 Recessions
Monthly Over-The-Year Rate Of Job Growth



* JANUARY 1980 TO JULY 1980 & JULY 1981 TO NOVEMBER 1982

Chart # 3 Monthly Over-The-Year Rate Of Job Growth
September 1989 - September 1990



Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Areas

In August 1990, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 269 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The Washington Area's August jobless rate was up 0.1 percentage point to 3.3 percent. This was the twenty-fifth lowest jobless rate of the 269 areas reporting. A year ago, the Washington Area rate was 2.6 percent.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 3.3 percent was the lowest of all the major metropolitan areas.

The Baltimore Area, only 35 miles north of Washington, reported a 0.2 percentage point drop in their August jobless rate to 4.8 percent. Before last month, Baltimore's rate had increased two consecutive months. A year ago, the Baltimore rate was 3.9 percent.

The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, recorded a 0.4 percentage point increase in its August jobless rate, up from 3.4 percent to 3.8 percent. A year ago, the rate was 3.1 percent.

In addition, to the Washington, D.C. Area and the Richmond-Petersburg Area, jobless rates between 3.3 percent and 3.9 percent were reported in 8 other selected metropolitan areas, the lowest being recorded in San Francisco also 3.3 percent and Seattle 3.4 percent.

There were 14 large metropolitan areas with rates between 4.0 and 4.9 percent. There were 10 large metropolitan areas with rates between 5.0 and 5.9 percent, and 5 large metropolitan areas with rates between 6.0 and 6.9 percent. There were 4 areas with rates above 7 percent with the largest posted by the Detroit Area at 7.6 percent.

Of the 269 metropolitan areas for which August data are available, 59 had over-the-year decreases of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rate, while 30 had increases of that magnitude. A total of 42 areas had August 1990 rates of 7 percent or higher, while 65 had rates below 4 percent.

Unemployment Rates in Selected Statistical Areas

MSA	August	
	1990*	1989
1. Washington, D.C.	**3.3**	**2.6**
2. San Francisco, CA	3.3	3.2
3. Seattle, WA	3.4	4.4
4. Milwaukee, WI	3.6	3.6
5. Cincinnati, OH	3.7	4.0
6. Pittsburgh, PA	3.7	3.9
7. Columbus, OH	3.7	4.0
8. Richmond-Petersburg, VA	3.8	3.1
9. Nashville, TN	3.9	3.6
10. Oakland, CA	3.9	4.0
11. Sacramento, CA	4.0	4.3
12. Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	4.1	3.7
13. Cleveland, OH	4.1	4.1
14. Philadelphia, PA	4.1	3.6
15. Louisville, KY	4.3	5.1
16. Portland, OR	4.3	4.4
17. Phoenix, AR	4.3	4.9
18. San Diego, CA	4.3	3.9
19. Salt Lake City, UT	4.4	4.3
20. Denver, CO	4.4	4.9
21. Memphis, TN	4.5	4.4
22. Dayton, OH	4.6	5.7
23. Buffalo, NY	4.6	5.7
24. Baltimore, MD	4.8	3.9
25. Newark, NJ	5.0	4.7
26. Kansas City, MO	5.1	4.4
27. Dallas, TX	5.1	6.1
28. Indianapolis, IN	5.3	3.5
29. Houston, TX	5.3	6.4
30. Atlanta, GA	5.4	5.3
31. Boston, MA	5.7	3.5
32. Jackson, MS	5.8	5.2
33. New York, NY	5.8	5.3
34. Oklahoma City, OK	5.9	4.1
35. New Orleans, LA	6.1	6.9
36. Birmingham, AL	6.2	6.3
37. Chicago, IL	6.2	5.6
38. St. Louis, MO	6.3	5.1
39. Los Angeles, CA	6.6	4.5
40. Gary, IN	7.1	4.6
41. Montgomery, AL	7.1	7.1
42. Miami, FL	7.5	6.1
43. Detroit, MI	7.6	6.0

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

States

When the District of Columbia (with an August preliminary unemployment rate of 6.1 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the eleventh highest jobless rate in the Country. This was six notches above July's standing. Virginia's rate at 4.1 percent was up 0.3 percentage point from July. Maryland's rate was down 0.1 percentage point to 4.4 percent. Virginia and Maryland have two of the sixteen lowest jobless rates among the 51 jurisdictions. This month, Maryland and Virginia ranked thirty-fourth and forty-second, respectively, in the standings. A year ago, Maryland's rate was 3.6 percent, while Virginia's was 3.1 percent.

Twelve states and the District of Columbia reported over-the-year increases of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rate. The largest increases took place in Massachusetts (2.5 percentage points) and Rhode Island and Indiana (both 2.2 percent). Four states reported over-the-year decreases greater than 1 percentage point. Wyoming had the largest drop (2.1 percentage points), followed by Texas and Washington (both 1.3 points) and Louisiana (1.1 points).

Four states had unemployment rates greater than 7 percent. West Virginia (8.7 percent) and Mississippi (7.9 percent) had the highest rates, followed by Alabama (7.6 percent) and Michigan (7.4 percent). In contrast, six states had August unemployment rates below 4 percent. The lowest rates were in Nebraska (2.3 percent) and Hawaii (2.5 percent).

Cities

In comparison with the 25 selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with an August preliminary rate of 6.1 percent) had the tenth highest jobless rate. This was three notches above the position held last month. The average unemployment rate of the 26 cities edged down 0.1 percentage point to 6.9 percent in August. A year ago, the rate was 0.4 percentage point lower at 6.5 percent.

Eight cities reported jobless rates below 6 percent, with the lowest posted in Pittsburgh 3.8 percent followed by Columbus and San Francisco both 4.0 percent.

Baltimore's rate at 7.4 percent was down from the 7.5 percent recorded in July. Baltimore held the eighteenth position among the 26 selected cities. A year ago, Baltimore's rate was 6.2 percent.

The City of Boston is experiencing rising rates of joblessness, as are all of the large cities in New England. In August, the rate was up 0.1 percentage point to 6.3 percent. Over the year, the Boston rate was up 2.3 points.

The central cities, Gary and Detroit, are still in the double digit column and their jobless rates are steadily increasing. In August, Gary's jobless rate increased 2.0 points to 12.1 percent. A year ago, Gary's rate was 8.1 percent, up 4.0 percentage points over the year. On the other hand, Detroit's jobless rate was up 0.8 percentage point over the month. A year ago, Detroit's rate was 10.9 percent.

Of the 26 selected central cities, sixteen cities reported increases in joblessness and nine cities reported decreases in joblessness over the year. The largest increases were reported by Gary 4.0 points, Los Angeles 2.4 points and Boston 2.3 points. The largest decreases in joblessness were recorded by Buffalo (1.5 points) and 1.2 points each in the Texas cities of Houston and Dallas. New Orleans also recorded a drop of 1.2 points. Cleveland at 6.5 percent was unchanged over the year.

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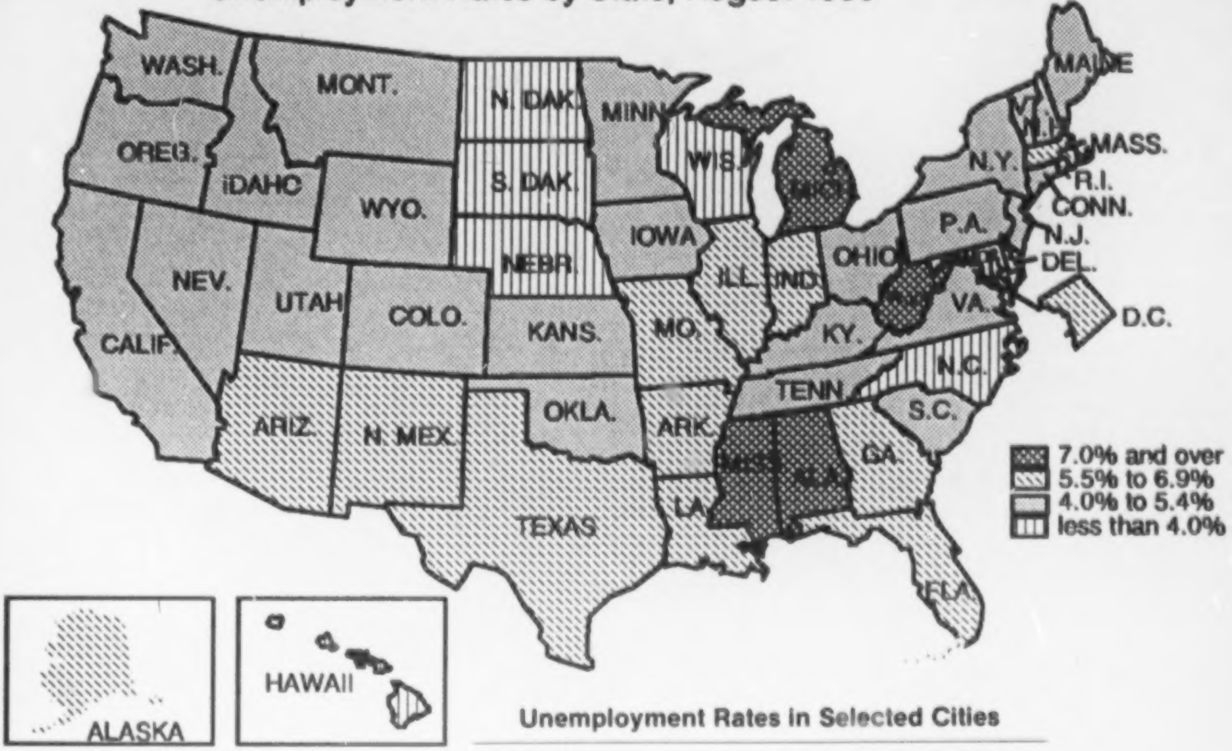
Pay Less Taxes!

TARGETED JOBS TAX CREDIT PROGRAM (TJTC)

(Call 639-1661)

Unemployment Rates by State, August 1990


WASH.
OREG.
CALIF.
IDAHO
NEV.
MONT.
WYO.
UTAH
COLO.
ARIZ.
N. MEX.
N. DAK.
S. DAK.
NEBR.
KANS.
OKLA.
TEXAS
MINN.
IOWA
MO.
ARK.
LA.
WIS.
ILL.
IND.
OHIO
KY.
TENN.
GA.
FLA.
S.C.
N.C.
VA.
P.A.
N.Y.
MAINE
MASS.
R.I.
CONN.
N.J.
DEL.
D.C.
ALASKA
HAWAII
7.0% and over
5.5% to 6.9%
4.0% to 5.4%
less than 4.0%

Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities

	August 1990*	August 1989
1. Pittsburgh, PA	3.8	4.0
2. Columbus, OH	4.0	4.4
3. San Francisco, CA	4.0	4.1
4. Salt Lake City, UT	4.4	4.6
5. Cincinnati, OH	4.6	5.1
6. Milwaukee, WI	4.9	4.8
7. Philadelphia, PA	5.2	4.7
8. Houston, TX	5.7	6.9
9. Dallas, TX	6.0	7.2
10. District of Columbia	**6.1**	**4.7**
11. New York, NY	6.2	5.6
12. Boston, MA	6.3	4.0
13. New Orleans, LA	6.5	7.7
14. Buffalo, NY	6.5	8.0
15. Cleveland, OH	6.5	6.5
16. Dayton, OH	6.9	6.8
17. Los Angeles, CA	7.4	5.0
18. Baltimore, MD	7.4	6.2
19. Atlanta, GA	7.9	7.8
20. Chicago, IL	8.2	7.5
21. St. Louis, MO	8.7	8.0
22. Birmingham, AL	8.9	8.6
23. Miami, FL	9.2	7.6
24. Newark, NJ	9.5	8.9
25. Detroit, MI	11.6	10.9
26. Gary, IN	12.1	8.1

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

Unemployment Insurance Activities
September 1990

The combined program measures of unemployment insurance activity all declined from August to September 1990. This pattern has been the same for the last two years. The number of first payments dropped 30 percent, and led all other measures as it did last year in September. Initial claims fell by 20 percent and final payments and total benefit outlay followed at 14 percent each. Weeks compensated was a close third at 13 percent.

This pattern is principally seasonal in nature, where September (and other last quarter months) represents a low point. There are a number of claimants who are eligible in the last month of the quarter, but who wait until the following month (the beginning of a new base period) and take advantage of a higher wage base figure that determines a higher benefit amount. In addition, August was a high month in initial claims activity because of recent layoffs in health care, retail, and banking industries. September may have exhibited a return to "normalcy" in relative terms.

When the year-to-date (January-September) and third quarter data are compared for the last several years, a different pattern emerges. Trend-wise in both periods, activity declined from 1986 through 1988, with the sharpest decline in 1988. Workload and outlay have increased since that point. The 1990 experience reflects the effects of an extremely cold winter (particularly December 1989 and January 1990) and a deteriorating economy, manifested by closures of several establishments and large layoffs in others.

The nine-month compensated weeks figure in 1990 rose six percent above last year, while the $68 million benefit outlay in the same period was 11 percent over last year. The quarterly measures indicate the point at which the effects were most acute. The third quarter 1990 weeks soared 18 percent above 1989 and outlay jumped 24 percent. Major layoffs and/or closures contributing to these increases include Garfinckels, George Washington University Hospital, Howard University Hospital, Mega Food Stores and the National Bank of Washington.

Weeks Compensated, Total and Average Weekly Unemployment Compensation Outlays
January-September and Third Quarters
District of Columbia
1986-1990

	JANUARY-SEPTEMBER					CHANGE			
	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	86-87	87-88	88-89	89-90
Wks Compensated	346,655	337,693	305,888	311,242	330,341	-8,962	-31,805	+5,354	+19,099
Total Outlay	$55,701,293	$58,874,947	$56,208,459	$61,358,555	$68,092,853	+$3,173,654	-$2,666,488	+$5,150,096	+$6,743,298
Avg. Wkly. Benefit	$160.68	$174.38	$183.76	$197.14	$211.13	+$13.66	+$9.38	+$13.38	+$13.99
	THIRD QUARTER					CHANGE			
Wks Compensated	115,465	106,777	100,136	102,532	121,028	-8,688	-6,641	+2,396	+18,496
Total Outlay	$19,012,820	$18,794,369	$18,666,770	$20,525,857	$25,508,990	-$218,451	-$128,092	+$1,859,580	+$4,983,133
Avg. Wkly. Benefit	$164.66	$176.02	$186.41	$200.19	$210.77	+$11.36	+$10.39	+$13.78	+$10.58

Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
September 1990

	Sept. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sept. 1989	% Change From Aug. 1990	% Change From Sept. 1989
State UI Programa/					
Initial Claims Taken	2,852	3,544	2,149	-19.5	+32.7
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	35,747	39,094	30,097	-8.6	+18.8
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	35,981	41,538	28,968	-13.4	+24.2
Total Benefits Paid	$7,561,993	$8,829,583	$5,745,792	-14.4	+31.6
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$210.17	$212.57	$198.35	-1.1	+6.0
Number of First Payments	1,881	2,664	1,278	-29.4	+47.2
Number of Final Payments	834	980	769	-14.9	+8.5
Total Beneficiaries	10,729	10,878	8,463	-1.4	+26.8
Federal Programb/					
Initial Claims Taken	71	95	91	-25.3	-22.0
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	1,744	1,833	2,069	-4.9	-15.7
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	1,776	2,055	2,417	-13.6	-26.5
Total Benefits Paid	$409,528	$478,347	$563,950	-14.4	-27.4
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$230.59	$232.77	$233.33	-0.9	-1.2
Number of First Payments	76	138	107	-44.9	-29.0
Number of Final Payments	49	60	86	-18.3	-43.0
Total Beneficiaries	492	525	689	-6.3	-28.6
Ex-Servicepersons Programc/					
Initial Claims Taken	33	38	25	-13.2	+32.0
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	298	323	263	-7.7	+13.3
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	233	254	217	-8.3	+17.1
Total Benefits Paid	$49,160	$51,943	$45,335	-5.4	+8.4
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$210.99	$204.50	$208.92	+3.2	+1.0
Number of First Payments	15	33	18	-54.5	-16.7
Number of Final Payments	13	10	14	+30.0	-7.1
Total Beneficiaries	73	79	71	-7.6	+2.8
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	2,956	3,677	2,265	-19.6	+30.5
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	37,789	41,250	32,429	-8.4	+16.5
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	37,990	43,847	31,602	-13.4	+20.2
Total Benefits Paid	$8,020,681	$9,359,873	$6,355,077	-14.3	+26.2
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$211.13	$213.47	$201.10	-1.1	+5.0
Number of First Payments	1,972	2,835	1,403	-30.4	+40.6
Number of Final Payments	896	1,050	869	-14.7	+3.1
Total Beneficiaries	11,294	11,482	9,223	-1.6	+22.5

a/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

b/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Serviceperson (UCX).

c/ No joint claims.

The Washington, D.C. Area Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area rose 1.7 percent during the 2 months ended in September to a level of 138.0 (1982-84=100). **For the 12-month period ended in September the CPI-U rose 6.1 percent.** The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose 1.7 percent from July to September. The September level of 136.9 (1982-84=100) was 5.7 percent higher than the index in September 1989.

The 1.7 percent increase in the CPI-U from July to September follows an increase of 1.3 percent in the preceding 2-month period. Sharply higher apparel prices and accelerating transportation costs accounted for over two-thirds of the increase from July to September.

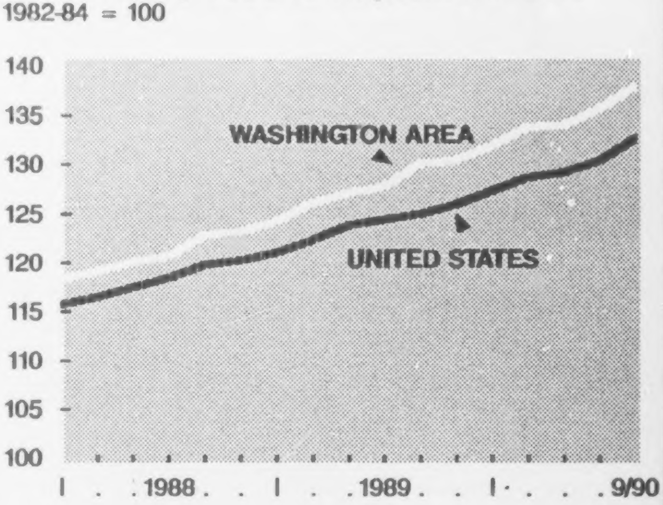
Comparing the local CPI-U with the U.S. city average, the first five months of the year saw the prices of goods and services accelerating more rapidly nationally than locally. During the May-to-July period, the prices of goods and services accelerated more rapidly locally than nationally. For the July-to-September period, the acceleration was just about even. The local index rose 1.7 percent, while the national index rose 1.8 percent. Over the year, the local index rose 6.1 percent and the national index rose 6.2 percent, only 0.1 percent higher nationally.

Over the month, the prices of goods and services tended to increase more rapidly nationally in four of the seven expenditure categories—transportation, medical care, housing and food and beverages. On the other hand, prices of goods and services tended to increase more rapidly locally for apparel and upkeep, other goods and services and entertainment. During the July-to-September period, the prices of energy increased much higher locally rising by 10.5 percent, while nationally the price of energy remained unchanged.

Washington, D.C.
Area Consumer Price Index
(All Urban Consumers—CPI-U)a/

	September 1990	Percent Change 2 months Ago	 Year Ago
ALL Items			
U.S.	132.7	+1.8	+6.2
Washington Area	138.0	+1.7	+6.1
Expenditure Category			
Food & Beverage	133.9	+0.0	+5.6
Housing	138.8	+0.3	+5.4
Apparel & Upkeep	147.0	+8.9	+3.4
Transportation	122.3	+3.0	+6.9
Medical Care	164.3	+1.2	+11.6
Entertainment	139.6	+1.9	+7.0
Other Goods & Services	168.3	+2.4	+6.7
Special Index:			
Energyb/	107.4	+10.5	+9.5

a/ 1982-84=100, except as noted.
b/ June 1978=100.
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; table prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff.



Consumer Price Index (CPI-U)
United States & Washington Area
January 1988 to September 1990

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for September 1990 increased $2.53. Average Weekly Hours rose .2 hour as the Average Hourly Earnings did not change from last month.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Stone, Clay and Glass Products' increase in Weekly Earnings of $63.75 was caused by more overtime being worked. It also caused Hourly Earnings to go up 34 cents. The Weekly Hours rise of 4.2 hours was due to a longer scheduled workweek. In Other Durable Goods, an increase in the proportion of lower paid employees caused the Hourly Earnings to drop 23 cents.

In the Non-Durable Goods Sector, Other Non-Durable Goods had a shorter scheduled workweek. Thus, the Weekly Hours show a decrease of 1.0 hour.

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
September 1990

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989
Total Manufacturing	496.36	493.83	476.80	39.3	39.1	39.7	12.33	12.63	12.01
Durable Goods	524.36	524.06	493.35	42.7	42.4	42.9	12.28	12.36	11.50
Stone Clay & Glass Products	552.94	489.19	532.78	47.3	43.1	46.9	11.69	11.35	11.36
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	487.34	484.31	445.55	41.3	41.5	42.8	11.80	11.67	10.41
Other Durable Goods	530.87	543.15	499.73	42.3	42.5	42.1	12.55	12.78	11.87
Non-Durable Goods	475.27	471.04	462.87	36.7	36.6	37.0	12.95	12.87	12.51
Food & Kindred Products	483.05	467.46	427.18	42.9	42.0	40.8	11.26	11.13	10.47
Printing & Publishing	495.17	488.82	491.00	34.7	34.4	35.4	14.27	14.21	13.87
Other Non-Durable Goods	394.83	401.43	378.33	41.3	42.3	40.9	9.56	9.49	9.25

Total Production Workers	Sep. 1990	Aug. 1990	Sep. 1989
	41,600	41,400	41,700

Employers!

If you're interested in filling job openings, call the Department of Employment Services, EMPLOYER SERVICES CENTER and ask about:

Positive Recruitment

We will be happy to:

ADVERTISE YOUR VACANCIES throughout the Metropolitan Area

PRE-SCREEN APPLICANTS to match their qualifications with your requirements

PRE-TEST APPLICANTS for general aptitudes or specific clerical skills

PROVIDE INTERVIEWING SPACE and assistance at your convenience.

We call this service POSITIVE RECRUITMENT. It gets positive results, it's effective, and it costs you nothing!

Several major employers use our service for continuous recruitment. They visit our offices weekly to interview applicants for their job openings.

We're here to help YOU. Call the Employer Services Center at 639-1601, or 1602 and ask about POSITIVE RECRUITMENT. It works!

Department of Employment Services
Government of the
District of Columbia
Marion Barry Jr., Mayor

S1527-3

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR OCTOBER 1990 DECEMBER 1990

Job Creation in the Area Negative Over the Year

The Number of Area Jobless Up 33%

Labor Force

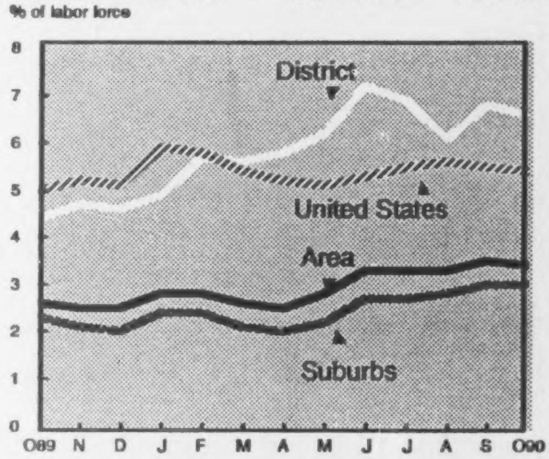
In October, the District's unemployment rate declined a modest two-tenths of a percentage point to register 6.6 percent of the labor force. The Area's rate also dropped from 3.5 percent in September to 3.4 percent in October. This was the fifth consecutive month that the Area's rate exceeded three percent. The October rate for the suburbs remained unchanged at 3.0 percent.

The unadjusted rate for all civilian workers in the United States was 5.4 percent, down from 5.5 percent in September. This October marked the ninth consecutive month that the District's rate has been above that for the nation.

The District

Between September and October, labor market changes in the District were relatively small and reflected rather traditional monthly patterns for October. For example, over the past 13 years, the District's October labor force and employment level have declined in nine years, while the unemployment level has declined in 12 of the 13 years. This is exactly the same pattern demonstrated this year. The District's labor force declined by 1,200, employment decreased by 800 and joblessness dropped by 600. This resulted in a two-tenths percent drop in the jobless rate.

Unemployment Rates
October 1989 - October 1990



The over-the-year changes, however, are relatively large and significant, fully reflecting the current downturn in the local economy. The District's unemployment rate has increased more than two full percentage points since September 1989, from a record October low of 4.4 percent last year to 6.6 percent this year. Not since October 1986, when the jobless rate was 7.5 percent has the October rate been this high. However this rate is substantially less than the record recessionary high of 11.0 percent registered in October 1983.

Continued on page 3

Government of the
District of Columbia

Marion Barry, Jr., Mayor

Department of
Employment Services
F. Alexis H. Roberson
Director

The
Department
of
Employment
Services

Working
to
keep
Washington
working.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR OCTOBER 1990 DECEMBER 1990

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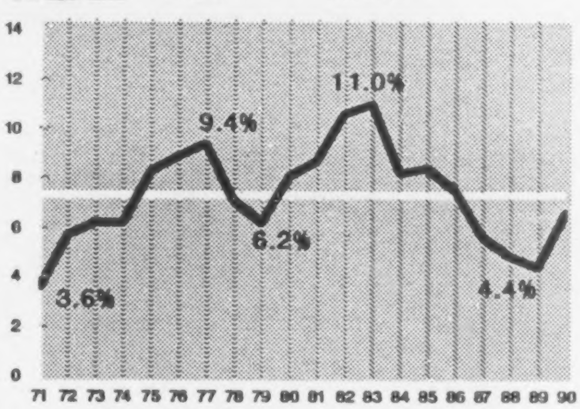
The *Area Labor Summary* is published monthly by the D.C. Department of Employment Services, 500 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The Labor Market Information and Research Staff (Richard Groner, Chief) prepares the *Summary*. The following staff members have contributed to the publication and development of data herein: Charles Roeslin, Rufus Daniels, Eileen Dent, Nancy Anderson-Grant, Elsie Taylor, and Gwendolyn Thompson, and administrative support was provided by Robin McDonald.

Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

Continued from page 1

This October there were 20,100 fewer residents in the labor force and 25,800 fewer with jobs than October a year ago. This represented a 6.4 percent decline in the District's labor supply and an 8.6 percent decline in the jobholding level. In October, people on the jobless rolls numbered 19,400, or 5,600 more than the same time last year. This represented a 40.5 percent one year increase in the number of jobless workers. Background data from the household survey indicated that about half of the unemployed in October were new or renewed entrants to the labor force, while about four of every ten were job losers.

District Unemployment Rates In the Month of October 1971 - 1990



Average Rate for October 7.3%

The Area & Suburbs

The monthly patterns in the suburbs and the Area were somewhat different than in the District. In October, the suburban labor force showed a small growth of 2,700 workers. The job market was able to absorb all of the suburban increase and withdrew another 1,500 suburbanites from the jobless pool, as Area employers hired 4,400 more suburban workers. While these were relatively small changes in a labor force of 1.9 million, they were sufficient enough to keep the suburban unemployment rate unchanged at 3.0 percent.

Over the year, suburban movements showed growth in the labor supply of 29,100, or 1.5 percent. The labor market was unable, however, to absorb the increase, as employers only added 15,800 new suburban workers to their payrolls. As a result, the suburban jobless rolls increased by 13,400 workers, or by over 30 percent. This produced a significant expansion in the suburban unemployment rate of 0.7 point.

For the area as a whole, the 20,100 person over-the-year decrease in the District's labor supply tended to offset the 29,100 person increase in the suburban supply, producing only a marginal growth of 9,000 in the Area's labor supply. This represented an over-the-year growth of only four-tenths of a percentage point. On the payroll side of the ledger, the 25,800 jobs lost by District residents were substantially larger than the 15,800 increase registered by suburbanites. As a result, the number of Area residents on

Continued on page 4

Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C., MSA by City and County

	Oct.a/ 1990	Sept.b/ 1990	Oct.b/ 1989
1. District of Columbia	**6.6**	**6.8**	**4.4**
2. Frederick County	4.7	4.9	2.3
3. Calvert County	4.4	4.3	2.9
4. Prince Georges County	4.1	4.1	2.9
5. Stafford County	3.5	3.2	2.3
6. Charles County	3.3	3.0	2.0
7. Alexandria City	3.0	3.2	2.6
8. Montgomery County	2.9	2.8	2.1
9. Manassas City	2.7	2.6	1.7
10. Prince William County	2.5	2.6	2.2
11. Arlington County	2.4	2.6	2.3
12. Fairfax County	2.1	2.3	2.0
13. Loudoun County	1.9	1.8	1.7
14. Falls Church City	1.7	1.7	2.1
15. Manassas Park City	1.7	1.8	1.4
16. Fairfax City	1.5	1.7	2.3

a/ Preliminary. b/ Revised.

SOURCE: The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Continued from page 3

payrolls declined by 10,000 or 0.8 percent. The net effect was a 19,000 person increase in the jobless rolls, an over-the-year increase of 33 percent. Seventy percent of the jobless increase was suburban in origin. The net result was a substantial increase in the Area's unemployment rate of eight-tenths of a percentage point. Despite the increase, the Area's unemployment rate of 3.4 percent remained two full percentage points below the U.S. rate and represented one of the lowest metropolitan rates in the country.

Why is the Area rate so low despite declining jobs? The answer is the small growth in the Area's labor force. If the labor force was growing more rapidly, while jobs are declining, the Area's unemployment roll would expand even more rapidly than is currently the case. For example, over the past year, if the Washington Area's labor force had grown at a rate of 2.4 percent rather than about half a percent, and employment had remained at its October's level, then the Area's unemployment rate would be about equal to the U.S. rate of 5.4 percent. Under these conditions, there would be about 120,000 unemployed Area residents, or 45,000 more than are now on the unemployment rolls.

At a level of only 3.4 percent in a declining market, the low unemployment rate is probably signaling the possibility of future labor shortages. When Area job growth begins to recover from the current downturn, the labor shortages that existed in the late 1980's are likely to reappear.

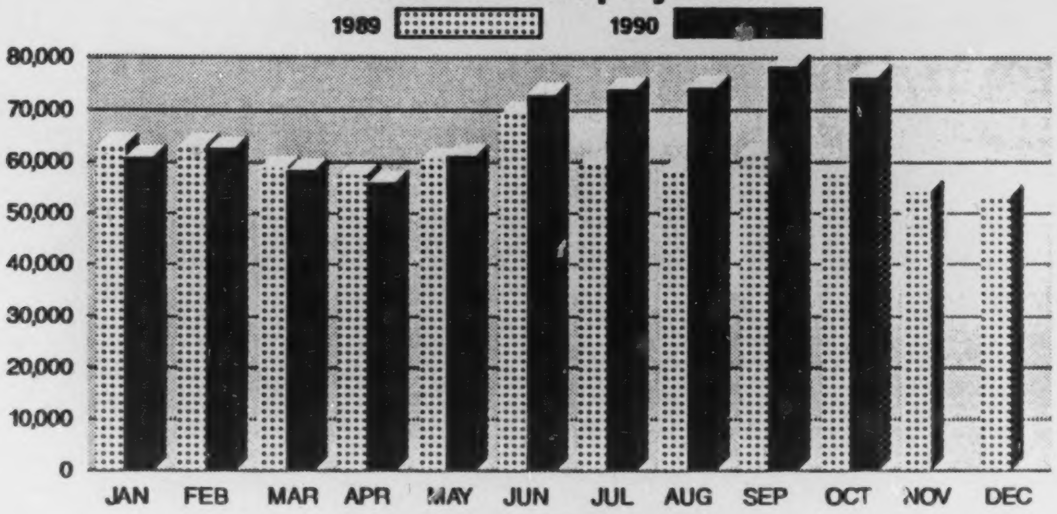
Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA
October 1990[a]

					Net Change From	
	Oct.[b] 1990	Sept.[c] 1990	Oct.[d] 1989	Sept.[d] 1989	Sept. 1990	Oct. 1989
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	294,100	295,300	314,200	312,800	-1,200	-20,100
Total Employed	274,600	275,400	300,400	297,300	-800	-25,800
Total Unemployed	19,400	20,000	13,800	15,500	-600	5,600
Unemployment Rate[e]	6.6	6.8	4.4	5.0	-0.2	2.2
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,927,400	1,924,700	1,898,300	1,896,400	2,700	29,100
Total Employed	1,870,600	1,866,200	1,854,800	1,850,600	4,400	15,800
Total Unemployed	56,900	58,400	43,500	45,800	-1,500	13,400
Unemployment Rate[e]	3.0	3.0	2.3	2.4	——	0.7
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,221,500	2,220,000	2,212,500	2,209,200	1,500	9,000
Total Employed	2,145,200	2,141,600	2,155,200	2,147,900	3,600	-10,000
Total Unemployed	76,300	78,400	57,300	61,300	-2,100	19,000
Unemployment Rate[e]	3.4	3.5	2.6	2.8	-0.1	0.8

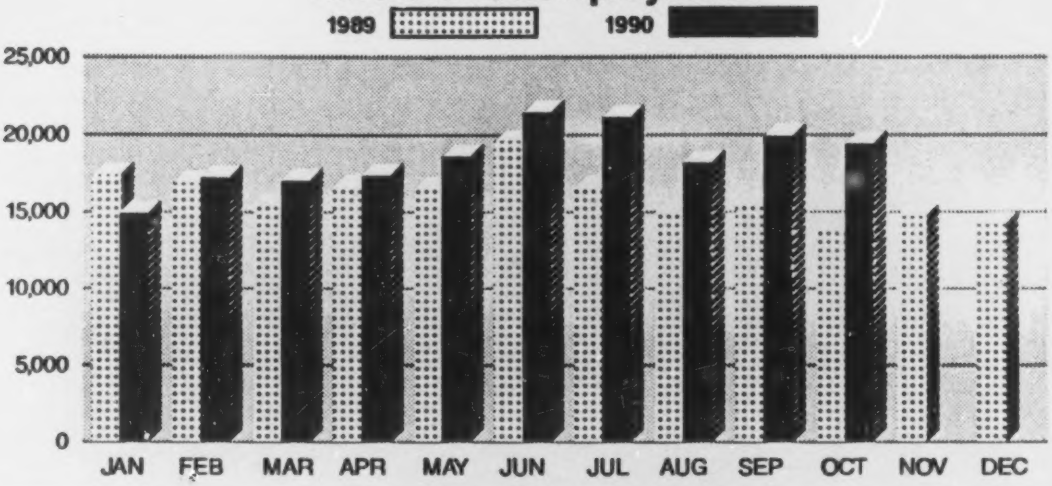
a/ Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding. b/ Preliminary.
c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions. e/ Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia, the Virginia Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, and Stafford; and the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick, and Calvert.

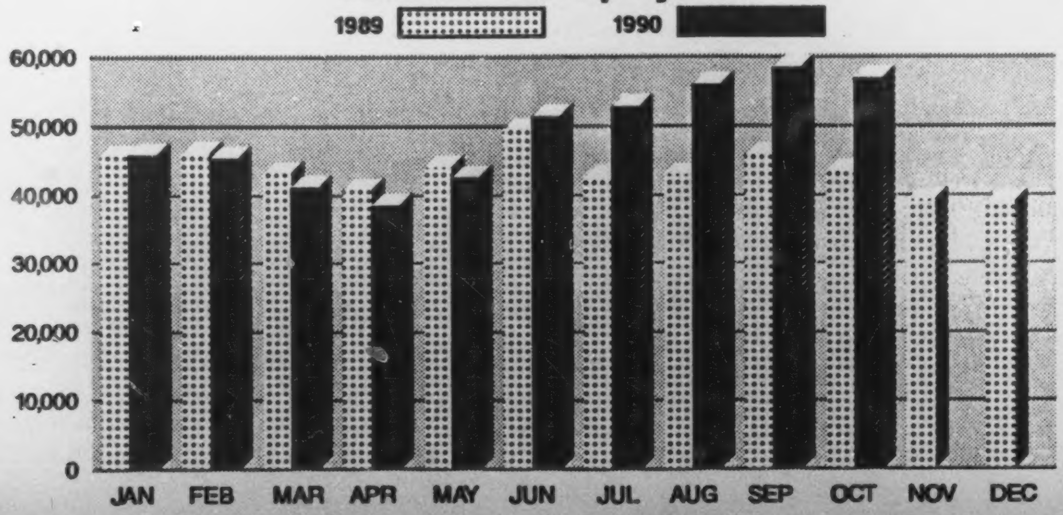
Washington Area
Level of Unemployment



District of Columbia
Levels of Unemployment



Washington Suburbs
Level of Unemployment



Labor Force Distribution Washington Metropolitan Area October 1990 & October 1989 (percent)

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
		OCTOBER 1990	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.2	12.8	25.4
Suburbs	86.8	87.2	74.6
		OCTOBER 1989	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	14.2	13.8	25.3
Suburbs	85.8	86.2	74.7

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

The number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits in the District of Columbia totaled 9,239 in October 1990 down 1,733 claimants from September, but up 694 from October 1989. In October 1990, 53 percent of all UI claimants were males. Occupationally, clerical and sales accounted for 29 percent of the total claimants. Professional, technical and managerial workers accounted for 28 percent, service workers 18 percent, structural workers 15 percent, miscellaneous workers 5 percent and the remaining 5 percent distributed between machine trade workers, bench workers, processing workers and farming, fishery, forestry and related occupations workers.

The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 9.9 weeks for all claimants in October. Over the month, the duration for males fell from 10.0 weeks to 9.7 weeks. For females, the duration rose from 9.7 weeks to 10.0 weeks. In October 1989, the average duration was 10.1 weeks for males and 10.5 for females.

Job Growth

The District

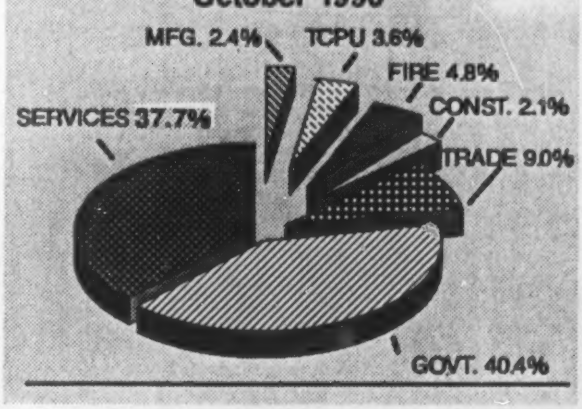
The number of jobs in the District decreased by 1,200 for a loss of 0.2 percent between September and October. The public sector was responsible for the loss with a primarily seasonal decline in Federal Government (2,100 jobs) partially offset by a seasonal increase in State and Local Government (500 jobs).

The private sector grew by 400 jobs with primarily seasonal gains in Services (500 jobs).

Over the year (October 1989 to October 1990), the number of District jobs declined 0.7 percent for a loss of 4,600 jobs. The private sector decreased at a rate of 1.3 percent for a loss of 5,200 jobs. The primary job loser, Trade, accounted for 69 percent of the private sector decrease with a loss of 3,600 jobs. The substantial decline in Trade reflects both a lower level of seasonal hiring this year and the recent loss of a major retail establishment. Significant private sector losses also occurred in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (700 jobs) and Services (700 jobs).

The public sector increased at a rate of 0.2 percent with a gain in State and Local Government (1,600 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (1,000 jobs).

Distribution of District Jobs October 1990



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The Suburbs

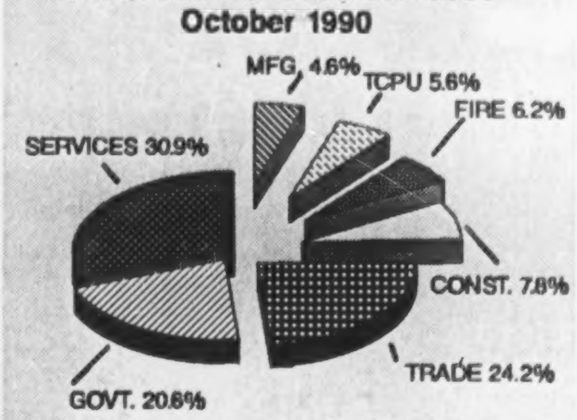
The number of suburban jobs increased 0.3 percent for a gain of 4,000 jobs between September and October. The public sector was primarily responsible for the gain with a seasonal increase in State and Local Government (6,800 jobs) partially offset by a decline in Federal Government (200 jobs). The Maryland suburbs accounted for 54 percent of the growth in State and Local Government while the Virginia suburbs were responsible for the loss in Federal Government.

The private sector declined by 2,600 jobs with losses concentrated in Construction (2,800 jobs). The Virginia suburbs were responsible for 61 percent of the loss in Construction.

Over the year (October 1989 to October 1990), suburban jobs grew at a rate of 0.1 percent for a gain of 1,300 jobs. **The Maryland suburbs grew at a rate of 0.8 percent accounting for all of the suburban growth while the Virginia suburbs decreased at a rate of 0.6 percent.**

The public sector accounted for the growth in suburban jobs with a gain in State and Local Government (11,000 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (2,200 jobs) resulting in growth over the year of 2.8 percent. Seventy-seven percent of the growth in government occurred in the Maryland suburbs.

Distribution of Suburban Jobs October 1990



The private sector declined by 0.6 percent with growth in the service-producing sector (9,300 jobs) offset by a decline in the goods-producing sector (16,800 jobs). The primary job gainers were Trade (5,900 jobs) and Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (2,200 jobs) while job losses were primarily concentrated in Construction (14,500 jobs). Seventy-three percent of the growth as well as 88 percent of the decline in these industries occurred in the Virginia suburbs. The Virginia suburbs were responsible for 94 percent of the growth in Services (1,600 jobs) while the Maryland suburbs accounted for 61 percent of the loss in Manufacturing (2,300 jobs).

The Area

The Washington Metropolitan Area gained 2,800 jobs between September and October for an increase of 0.1 percent. The public sector was responsible for the growth with seasonal gains in State and Local Government (7,300 jobs)

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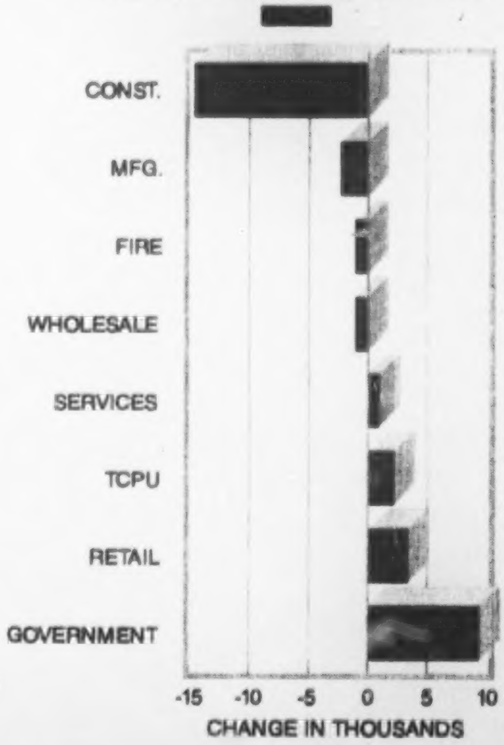
**Industrial Job Gainers & Losers
Washington Area
October 1989 To October 1990**



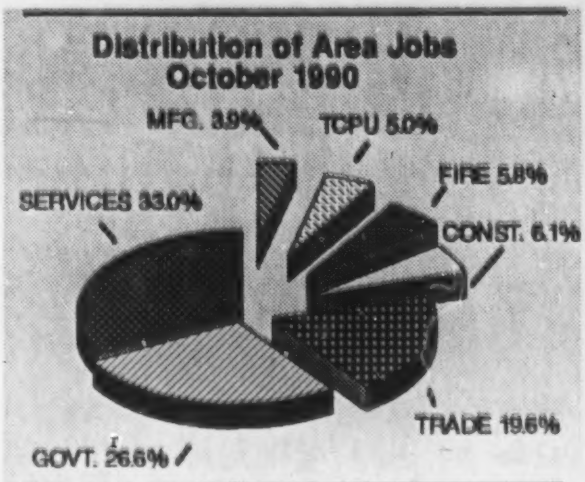
Continued from page 7

partially offset by a primarily seasonal loss in Federal Government (2,300 jobs).

The private sector declined by 0.1 percent with losses primarily in Construction (2,800 jobs).

Over the year (October 1989 to October 1990), the Area declined at a rate of 0.1 percent for a loss of 3,300 jobs. The private sector, declining at a rate of 0.8 percent for a loss of 12,700 jobs, was responsible for the Area job loss. Job losses were concentrated in Construction (14,700 jobs), Manufacturing (2,300 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,100 jobs) while job growth occurred in Trade (2,300 jobs), Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities (2,200 jobs) and Services (900 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 1.6 percent with gains in State and Local Government (12,600 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (3,200 jobs).


Distribution of Area Jobs October 1990

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work a/
(in thousands)

INDUSTRY	District of Columbia Oct. b/ 1990	District of Columbia Sept. c/ 1990	District of Columbia Oct. d/ 1989	Metropolitan Area Oct. b/ 1990	Metropolitan Area Sept. c/ 1990	Metropolitan Area Oct. d/ 1989
TOTAL	681.4	682.6	686.0	2,248.1	2,245.3	2,251.4
Total Private Sector	406.0	405.6	411.2	1,650.5	1,652.7	1,663.2
Total Government	275.4	277.0	274.8	597.6	592.6	588.2
Total Goods Producing	30.4	30.4	30.8	225.7	228.8	242.7
Manufacturing	16.1	16.1	16.1	87.0	87.9	89.9
Total Durables	2.4	2.4	2.3	41.5	41.6	43.9
Stone, Clay, Glass Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.1	3.1	3.4
Electronic & Electric Equip.	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.0	17.0	17.3
All Other Durable	N/A	N/A	N/A	21.4	21.5	23.2
Total Non-Durable	13.7	13.7	13.8	46.1	46.3	46.0
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	4.7	4.7	4.7
Printing & Publishing	13.0	13.0	13.1	35.5	35.7	35.5
All Other Non-Durable	0.4	0.4	0.4	5.9	5.9	5.8
Mining	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Construction	14.2	14.2	14.4	137.0	139.8	151.7
Total Service Producing	651.0	652.2	655.4	2022.4	2016.5	2008.7
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	24.6	24.6	24.6	112.9	112.1	110.7
All Transportation	9.7	9.8	9.8	58.7	57.8	56.2
Railroads	4.2	4.2	4.1	5.3	5.3	5.3
Transportation ex. Railroad	5.5	5.6	5.7	53.4	52.5	50.9
Communications & Public Utilities	14.9	14.8	14.8	54.2	54.3	54.5

Continued on page 9

Continued from page 8

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a]
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	Oct.[b] 1990	Sept.[c] 1989	Oct.[c] 1989	Oct.[b] 1990	Sept.[c] 1989	Oct.[c] 1989
Trade	**61.2**	**61.2**	**64.8**	**440.7**	**440.0**	**438.4**
Wholesale	8.2	8.2	8.4	77.8	77.9	78.9
Retail	53.0	53.0	56.4	362.9	362.1	359.5
General Merchandise	N/A	N/A	N/A	39.5	39.3	40.3
Food Stores	N/A	N/A	N/A	53.6	53.3	50.5
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	38.1	38.7	38.8
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	26.6	26.1	27.8
Eating & Drinking Places	26.9	27.1	29.1	117.1	117.6	116.5
All Other Retail	26.1	25.9	27.3	88.0	87.1	85.6
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**32.6**	**32.7**	**33.3**	**129.6**	**130.2**	**130.7**
Finance	15.3	15.5	15.9	60.0	60.1	60.7
Depository Institutions	8.4	8.4	9.2	39.0	39.0	39.5
Other Finance	6.9	7.1	6.7	21.0	21.1	21.2
Insurance	7.4	7.4	7.7	26.9	26.8	26.8
Real Estate	9.9	9.8	9.7	42.7	43.3	43.2
Services	**257.2**	**256.7**	**257.9**	**741.6**	**741.6**	**740.7**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	17.4	17.1	17.1	37.8	37.5	36.9
Personal Services	3.2	3.2	3.6	22.7	22.6	22.5
Business Services	38.9	39.5	41.5	180.7	181.3	183.1
Services to Buildings	14.6	14.8	15.7	N/A	N/A	N/A
Personnel Supply	8.1	8.3	9.6	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	6.1	6.2	6.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Business Services	10.1	10.2	10.2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	37.0	36.8	36.7	114.6	114.2	111.8
Legal Services	30.3	29.8	29.5	41.2	40.8	40.1
Educational Services	31.1	31.2	30.2	44.4	44.3	43.9
Social Services	12.2	12.3	12.2	34.2	33.9	33.6
Membership Organizations	34.0	33.9	32.8	60.2	60.0	58.6
Engineering/Management Ser.	43.1	43.0	44.0	142.4	142.6	146.3
All Other Services	10.0	9.9	10.3	63.4	64.4	63.9
Government	**275.4**	**277.0**	**274.6**	**597.6**	**592.6**	**588.2**
Federal Government	218.9	221.0	219.9	363.0	365.3	366.2
State & Local Government	56.5	56.0	54.9	234.6	227.3	222.0
State Government	51.7	51.2	50.2	83.3	81.1	80.8
Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	151.3	146.2	141.2
Public Transportation	4.8	4.8	4.7	N/A	N/A	N/A

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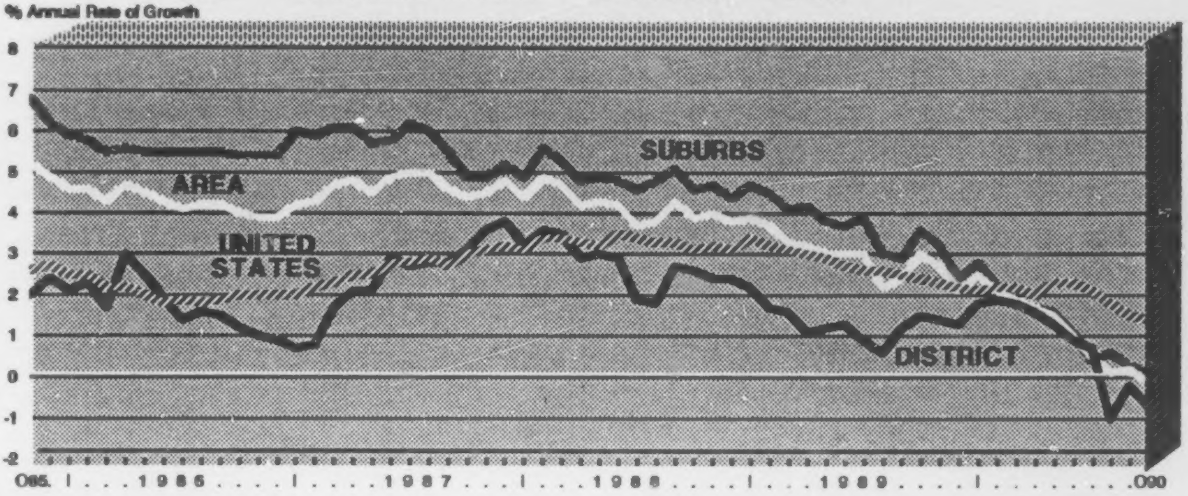
a/ Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. b/ Preliminary. c/ Revised.
d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions.

Data includes all full-and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

SOURCE: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Monthly Over-The-Year Rate of Job Growth
October 1985 - October 1990



Area Job Growth Rates

Over the past five years (October 1985 to October 1990), the Washington Area has created new jobs at a rate of 3.6 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has declined from a peak of 5.2 percent in October 1985.

In October for the first time in nearly eight years, Area over-the-year job growth was negative. Between October 1989 and October 1990, the Area economy recorded a net job loss of one tenth of a percent. The last time the Area reported a negative job growth number was November 1982, the very last month of the 1981-1982 national recession. This year's over-the-year loss was down sharply from the 3.0 percent job growth reported for October 1989.

During October, suburban over-the-year job creation was still positive, but by a very modest one-tenth of a percent. This October's suburban growth was also down significantly from the yearly growth of 3.6 percent registered in October 1989. In the District, the number of jobs actually declined over the year by seven-tenths of a percentage point. The loss of jobs this year compares to a growth of 1.2 percent recorded a year ago.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from a gain of 96,600 new jobs between October 1984 and October 1985, to a loss of 3,300 jobs between October 1989 and this past October. Over the past year, only 1,300 new jobs were added to the Suburban economy, while the District lost 4,600 jobs. **The sluggish U.S. economy in October produced a small number of new jobs compared to the job losses in the Washington Area (a 1.4 percent increase for the U.S. economy vs. the local loss of 0.1 percent).** October was the ninth consecutive month in which the rate of growth in local jobs was below the rate for all of the United States.

NOTE: It should be recognized that the monthly estimates of jobs are subject to annual benchmark revisions. These revisions can be plus or minus one percent or more, a range well within the current measurements of change.

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(Call 639-1661)

Profile of Job Growth Rates
October 1985 to October 1990

The Area

Average 60 months	3.6%
High, October 1985	5.2%
Low, October 1990	-0.1%
1-year ago	3.0%
Last month	0.2%
Current month	-0.1%

The Suburbs

Average 60 months	4.4%
High, October 1985	7.0%
Low, October 1990	0.1%
1-year ago	3.6%
Last month	0.3%
Current month	0.1%

The District

Average 60 months	1.9%
High, December 1987	3.8%
Low, August 1990	-1.0%
1-year ago	1.5%
Last month	-0.2%
Current month	-0.7%

Note: Data reflects benchmark revisions for 1988-1989.

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- Proficiency Testing
- High quality referrals

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- Recruitment Assistance
- Employer Workshops
- Resume Bank
- Labor Market Information

Department of Employment Services

Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Areas

In September 1990, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 269 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The Washington Area's September jobless rate was up 0.2 percentage point to 3.5 percent. This was the thirty-fifth lowest jobless rate of the 269 areas reporting. A year ago, the Washington Area rate was 2.8 percent.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 3.5 percent was the second lowest of all the major metropolitan areas.

The Baltimore Area, only 35 miles north of Washington, reported a 0.1 percentage point rise in its September jobless rate to 4.9 percent. The Baltimore rate has increased three of the last four months. A year ago, the Baltimore rate was 4.1 percent.

The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, recorded a 0.5 percentage point increase in its September jobless rate, up from 3.8 percent to 4.3 percent. A year ago, the rate was 3.6 percent.

In addition to the Washington, D.C. Area, jobless rates between 3.0 percent and 3.9 percent were reported in 8 other selected metropolitan areas, the lowest being recorded in Seattle—3.4 percent. Milwaukee also had a jobless rate of 3.5 percent.

There were 16 large metropolitan areas with rates between 4.0 and 4.9 percent. There were 9 large metropolitan areas with rates between 5.0 and 5.9 percent, and 7 large metropolitan areas with rates between 6.0 and 6.9 percent. There were 3 areas with rates above 7 percent with the largest posted by the New York Area at 7.2 percent.

Of the 269 metropolitan areas for which September data are available, 45 had over-the-year increases of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rate, while 15 had decreases of that magnitude. A total of 62 areas had September 1990 rates below 4 percent, while 47 had rates of 7 percent or higher.

Unemployment Rates in Selected Statistical Areas

MSA	**September**	
	1990*	**1989**
1. Seattle, WA	3.4	4.6
2. Washington, D.C.	**3.5**	**2.8**
3. Milwaukee, WI	3.5	4.0
4. San Francisco, CA	3.7	3.3
5. Denver, CO	3.7	4.2
6. Indianapolis, IN	3.7	4.1
7. Cincinnati, OH	3.8	4.0
8. Columbus, OH	3.8	4.3
9. Phoenix, AR	4.0	4.3
10. Salt Lake City, UT	4.1	4.1
11. Richmond-Petersburg, VA	4.3	3.6
12. Nashville, TN	4.3	3.6
13. Cleveland, OH	4.3	4.4
14. Pittsburgh, PA	4.4	3.9
15. Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	4.4	4.0
16. Buffalo, NY	4.4	5.6
17. Oakland, CA	4.5	4.2
18. Portland, OR	4.5	4.4
19. Oklahoma City, OK	4.5	4.4
20. Dayton, OH	4.6	4.6
21. Sacramento, CA	4.7	4.8
22. Philadelphia, PA	4.8	3.8
23. Memphis, TN	4.8	4.4
24. Baltimore, MD	4.9	4.1
25. San Diego, CA	5.1	4.2
26. Kansas City, MO	5.1	4.8
27. Jackson, MS	5.3	5.1
28. Dallas, TX	5.4	5.3
29. Gary, IN	5.4	5.3
30. Newark, NJ	5.5	4.6
31. Houston, TX	5.5	5.6
32. Boston, MA	5.5	3.8
33. Louisville, KY	5.7	7.2
34. St. Louis, MO	6.1	5.3
35. Los Angeles, CA	6.1	4.8
36. Atlanta, GA	6.4	5.7
37. Birmingham, AL	6.4	5.6
38. Chicago, IL	6.5	5.4
39. New Orleans, LA	6.7	6.4
40. Miami, FL	6.9	6.5
41. Montgomery, AL	7.0	6.2
42. Detroit, MI	7.0	7.9
43. New York, NY	7.2	5.8

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

States

When the District of Columbia (with a September preliminary unemployment rate of 6.8 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the sixth highest jobless rate in the County. This was five notches above August's standing. Virginia's rate at 4.3 percent was up 0.2 percentage point from August. Maryland's rate also was up 0.1 percentage point to 4.5 percent. Virginia and Maryland have two of the seventeen lowest jobless rates among the 51 jurisdictions. This month, Maryland and Virginia ranked thirty-fifth and fortieth, respectively, in the standings. A year ago, Maryland's rate was 3.7 percent, while Virginia's was 3.9 percent.

Eight states and the District of Columbia reported over-the-year increases in their unemployment rate of 1 percentage point or more. The largest increases were in Delaware (2.2 percentage points), Massachusetts (1.9 points), the District of Columbia (1.8 points) and Rhode Island (1.7 points). Washington and Wyoming were the only two states to have declines in their rates in excess of 1 percentage point.

Eight states had September unemployment rates below 4 percent. The lowest were in Nebraska (2.1 percent), Hawaii (2.8 percent), North Carolina (3.3 percent) and North Dakota and South Dakota (both 3.4 percent). At the upper end, four states had unemployment rates of 7 percent or more. West Virginia was the highest (9.0 percent), followed by Alabama (7.5 percent), Mississippi (7.1 percent) and Louisiana (7.0 percent).

Cities

In comparison with the 25 selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with a September preliminary rate of 6.8 percent) had the twelfth highest jobless rate. This was two notches above the position held last month. The average unemployment rate of the 26 cities was up 0.1 percentage point to 7.0 percent in September. A year ago, the rate was 0.4 percentage point lower at 6.6 percent.

Seven cities reported jobless rates at or below 6 percent, with the lowest posted in Salt Lake City and Columbus 4.1 percent and 4.2 percent, respectively. In September, both Pittsburgh and San Francisco reported jobless rates of 4.4 percent.

Baltimore's rate at 7.5 percent was up 0.1 percentage point from August. Baltimore held the seventeenth position among the 26 selected cities. The September 1990 rate was 1.0 percentage point higher than the September 1989 rate.

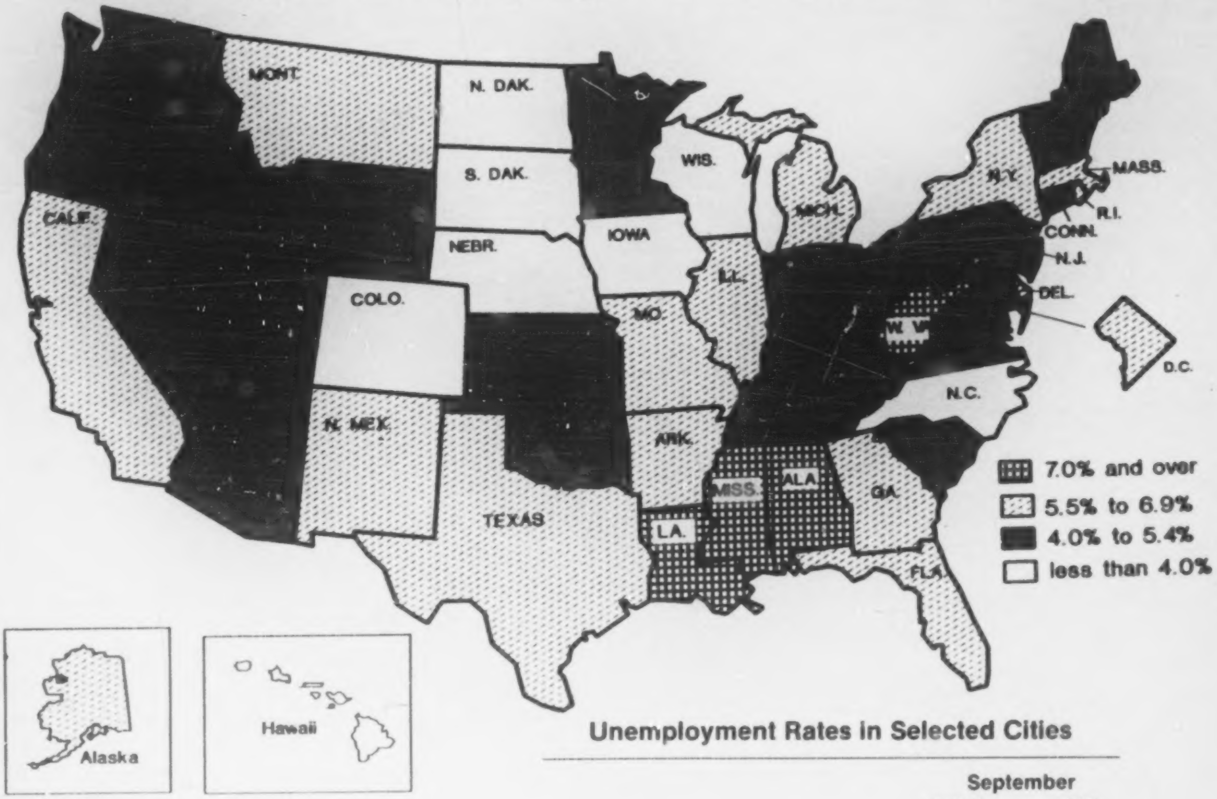
The central city of Gary temporarily fell out of the double digit column in September, its rate dropping a full 2.8 percentage points to 9.3 percent. This is just 0.1 percentage point above the September 1989 rate for Gary.

Newark became the latest double digiter this month. Newark's jobless rate was the highest among the 26 cities, rising 0.9 percentage point over the month to 10.4 percent. Last September, Newark's rate was 9.2 percent.

Detroit's jobless rate dropped 1.4 percentage points over the month to 10.2 percent. Detroit had held the twenty-sixth position in August but dropped to the twenty-fifth position this month. A year ago, Detroit's rate was 2.2 percentage points higher at 12.4 percent.

Of the 26 selected central cities, only eight cities reported decreases in joblessness while seventeen cities reported increases in joblessness over the year. The largest decreases were reported by Detroit and Buffalo, 2.2 and 1.7 percentage points, respectively. **The largest increase in joblessness was reported by the District of Columbia, up 1.8 percentage points over the year.** This was followed by New York 1.7 percentage points and Boston 1.6 percentage points. Over the year, Cleveland's rate was unchanged at 6.9 percent.

Unemployment rates by state, September 1990


MONT.
N. DAK.
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DEL.
CALIF.
COLO.
ILL.
MO.
W. VA.
D.C.
N.C.
N. MEX.
ARK.
MISS.
ALA.
GA.
TEXAS
LA.
FLA.
▦ 7.0% and over
▨ 5.5% to 6.9%
■ 4.0% to 5.4%
☐ less than 4.0%
Alaska
Hawaii

Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities

	September	
	1990*	1989
1. Salt Lake City, UT	4.1	4.3
2. Columbus, OH	4.2	4.7
3. Pittsburgh, PA	4.4	3.9
4. San Francisco, CA	4.4	4.1
5. Milwaukee, WI	4.6	5.2
6. Cincinnati, OH	4.8	5.3
7. Houston, TX	6.0	6.1
8. Boston, MA	6.1	4.5
9. Philadelphia, PA	6.3	4.9
10. Dallas, TX	6.3	6.1
11. Buffalo, NY	6.3	8.0
12. District of Columbia	**6.8**	**5.0**
13. Cleveland, OH	6.9	6.9
14. Los Angeles, CA	6.9	5.4
15. New Orleans, LA	7.2	7.3
16. Dayton, OH	7.2	7.1
17. Baltimore, MD	7.5	6.5
18. New York, NY	7.9	6.2
19. Miami, FL	8.5	8.0
20. Chicago, IL	8.6	7.3
21. St. Louis, MO	8.8	8.6
22. Birmingham, AL	8.9	7.6
23. Atlanta, GA	9.2	8.5
24. Gary, IN	9.3	9.2
25. Detroit, MI	10.2	12.4
26. Newark, NJ	10.4	9.2

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

Unemployment Insurance Activities—October 1990

Claims filed for unemployment compensation for workers in the District of Columbia totalled 3,930 in October 1990. This was 33 percent above September. The current claimsload level was second only to January of this year, when the weather and other seasonal factors ran the claims level above 4,100. The rise in claims for this month was somewhat expected. Since October is the first month of a calendar quarter, and also represents the time when the base period changes for monetary determination of benefits under unemployment insurance laws, the claimsload is seasonally high.

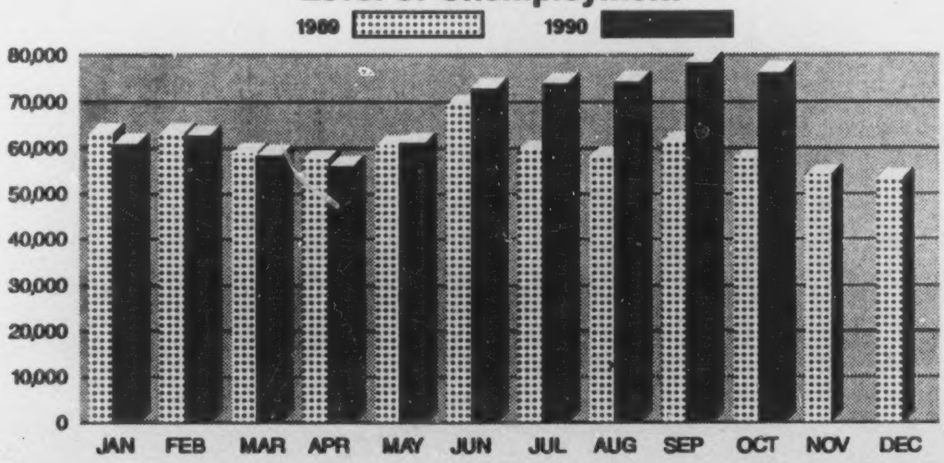
The rise in October last year was 28 percent, and the previous two years was 17 and 12 percents, respectively. The change-of-base year and this October phenomenon occurs principally for monetary reasons. Several of the October claimants were actually eligible in September, but because their base year as of October for benefit determination had higher wages (and a potential for higher benefits) than as of September, they waited until October to file for benefits.

There has been a surge of filers in the first month of the calendar quarter of each year—with the possible exception of April in the last three years—for this reason. In addition this year, claims have been generally higher each month, particularly since June, when layoffs because of closures and cutbacks in staff began to take effect.

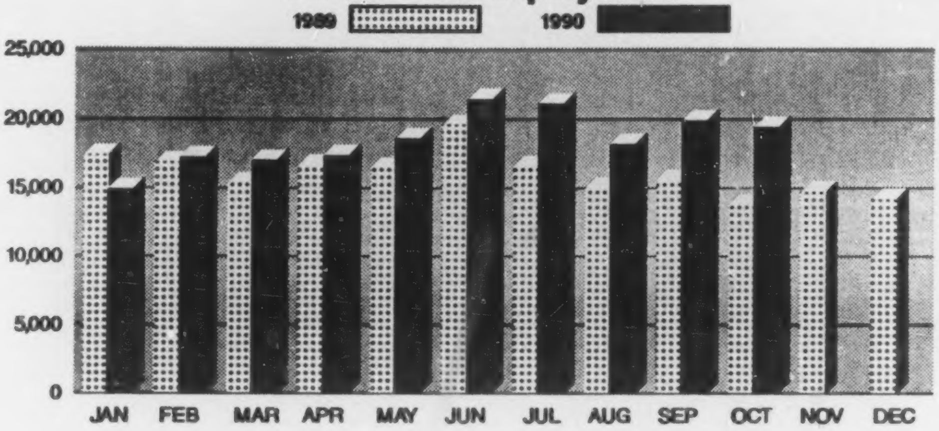
The number of weeks compensated climbed to 43,840—15 percent above last month, but a whopping 44 percent over the same time last year. Only in August of this year were the compensated weeks higher—and then by only less than 10 weeks. Likewise, the $9.3 million benefit outlay was, like the compensated weeks, second only to August. The October outlay was just $63,921 shy of August. Compared to October last year, however, it soared 53 percent—the highest yearly relative change of all the measures discussed for all programs.

Through the first ten months of this calendar year, 33,340 claims have been taken, compared to 29,690 at this time last year. Currently the yearly increase to date is 12 percent. Through the end of the second quarter, however, claims were only half as high (7 percent). Weeks compensated through October of this year numbered 374,190 or 10 percent above last year. Outlay, at $77.4 million for ten months of 1990 outstripped last year by $10 million. The average weekly benefit amount (rising from $197.42 to $206.81) and the weeks compensated (a ten percent increase) combined to account for the outlay surge.

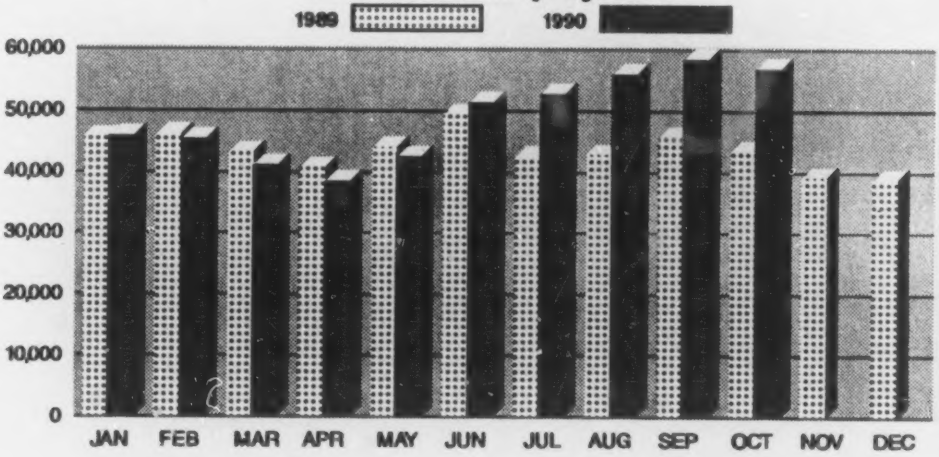
Washington Area
Level of Unemployment



District of Columbia
Levels of Unemployment



Washington Suburbs
Level of Unemployment



Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
October 1990

	Oct. 1990	Sept. 1990	Oct. 1989	% Change From Sept. 1990	% Change From Oct. 1989
State UI Program[a/]					
Initial Claims Taken	3,756	2,852	2,768	+31.7	+35.7
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	40,651	35,747	29,200	+13.7	+39.2
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	41,453	35,981	27,936	+15.2	+48.4
Total Benefits Paid	$8,755,179	$7,561,993	$5,520,084	+15.8	+58.6
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$211.21	$210.17	$190.60	+0.5	+6.9
Number of First Payments	2,068	1,881	1,369	+9.9	+51.1
Number of Final Payments	1.079	834	764	+29.4	+41.2
Total Beneficiaries	10,772	10,729	7,912	+0.4	+36.1
Federal Program[b/]					
Initial Claims Taken	145	71	112	+104.2	+29.5
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	2,074	1,744	2,061	+18.9	+0.6
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,132	1,776	2,290	+20.0	-6.9
Total Benefits Paid	$486,339	$409,528	$529,274	+18.8	-8.1
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$228.11	$230.59	$231.12	-1.1	-1.3
Number of First Payments	117	76	110	+53.9	+6.4
Number of Final Payments	56	49	104	+14.3	-46.2
Total Beneficiaries	540	492	664	+9.8	-18.7
Ex-Servicepersons Program[c/]					
Initial Claims Taken	33	33	29	+0.0	+13.8
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	366	298	254	+22.8	+44.1
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	259	233	204	+11.2	+27.0
Total Benefits Paid	$54,434	$49,160	$44,512	+10.7	+22.3
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$210.17	$210.99	$218.20	-0.4	-3.7
Number of First Payments	27	15	21	+80.0	+28.6
Number of Final Payments	16	13	10	+23.1	+60.0
Total Beneficiaries	78	73	64	+6.8	+21.9
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	3,934	2,956	2,909	+33.1	+35.2
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	43,091	37.789	31,515	+14.0	+36.7
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	43,844	37,990	30,430	+15.4	+44.1
Total Benefits Paid	$9,295,952	$8,020,681	$6,093,870	+15.9	+52.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$212.02	$211.13	$200.26	+0.4	+5.9
Number of First Payments	2,212	1,972	1,500	+12.2	+47.5
Number of Final Payments	1,151	896	878	+28.5	+31.1
Total Beneficiaries	11,390	11,294	8,640	+0.9	+31.8

a/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

b/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation of Ex-Serviceperson (UCX).

c/ No joint claims.

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for October 1990 increased $2.83. Average Weekly Hours increased .1 hour, as Average Hourly Earnings rose 4 cents.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Stone, Clay and Glass Products reported an increase in Weekly Earnings of $32.41. Weekly Hours increased 1.7 hours, while Hourly Earnings rose by 27 cents. All of the increases were due to more business.

In the Non-Durable Goods Sector, decreases in Food and Kindred Products reflected less overtime being worked. As a result, Weekly Earnings declined by $43.73 and Weekly Hours dropped 1.1 hours. Hourly Earnings showed a substantial drop of 75 cents.

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
October 1990

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Oct. 1990	Sep. 1990	Oct. 1989	Oct. 1990	Sep. 1990	Oct. 1989	Oct. 1990	Sep. 1990	Oct. 1989
Total Manufacturing	496.83	494.00	477.58	39.4	39.3	39.6	12.61	12.57	12.06
Durable Goods	524.91	519.35	496.22	42.4	42.5	43.0	12.38	12.22	11.54
Stone Clay & Glass Products	559.09	526.68	511.50	47.3	45.6	46.5	11.82	11.55	11.00
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	484.57	484.46	455.18	41.1	41.8	43.6	11.79	11.59	10.44
Other Durable Goods	530.86	530.03	506.04	41.8	42.2	42.1	12.70	12.56	12.02
Non-Durable Goods	473.06	473.80	461.32	36.9	36.7	36.7	12.82	12.91	12.57
Food & Kindred Products	439.32	483.05	452.41	41.8	42.9	42.6	10.51	11.26	10.62
Printing & Publishing	499.82	494.82	482.67	35.1	34.7	34.6	14.24	14.26	13.95
Other Non-Durable Goods	395.37	393.87	388.23	41.4	41.2	41.7	9.55	9.56	9.31

Total Production Workers	Oct. 1990	Sep. 1990	Oct. 1989
	40,700	41,100	41,600

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If you're interested in filling job openings, call the Department of Employment Services, EMPLOYER SERVICES CENTER and ask about:

Positive Recruitment

We will be happy to:

ADVERTISE YOUR VACANCIES throughout the Metropolitan Area

PRE-SCREEN APPLICANTS to match their qualifications with your requirements

PRE-TEST APPLICANTS for general aptitudes or specific clerical skills

PROVIDE INTERVIEWING SPACE and assistance at your convenience.

We call this service POSITIVE RECRUITMENT. It gets positive results, it's effective, and it costs you nothing!

Several major employers use our service for continuous recruitment. They visit our offices weekly to interview applicants for their job openings.

We're here to help YOU. Call the Employer Services Center at 639-1601, or 1602 and ask about POSITIVE RECRUITMENT. It works!

Department of Employment Services
Government of the
District of Columbia
Marion Barry Jr., Mayor

S1507-3

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.
AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR NOVEMBER 1990 JANUARY 1991

Suburban Jobs Decline Over The Year

D.C. Unemployment Rate 6.9% In November

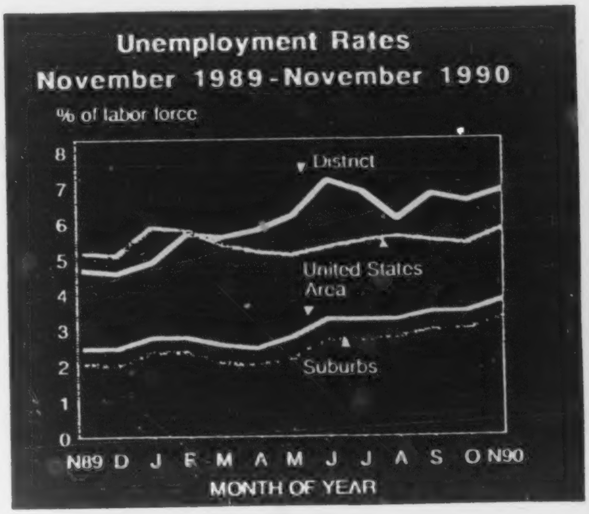
Labor Force

During November, unemployment rates for the Area, the District and the suburbs each increased by three-tenths of a percentage point. The increases pushed the Area's rate up to 3.8 percent, the District's rate to 6.9 percent and the suburban rate to 3.3 percent. The Area's jobless rate represents the highest for November since the 4.5 percent recorded in November 1983. It also marks the sixth consecutive month that the Area's rate has been above 3 percent.

The unadjusted November rate for all civilian workers in the United States was 5.8 percent, up from 5.4 percent in October. November marked the tenth consecutive month the District's rate has been above the nation's.

The District

In the District, the labor market changes between October and November were relatively small, however, they followed seasonal patterns. The labor force declined by 1,100, employment declined by 1,800 and the level of unemployment rose by 700. These market interactions edged the rate up 0.3 tenths of a percent. This is, however not an overly large increase for November.



Unemployment Rates
November 1989-November 1990

The impact of recent declines in the Area's economy as they relate to the District's labor supply are clearly visible in the over-the-year measurements. In November 1989, the District's unemployment rate was 4.7 percent, one of the lowest historical rates for the month. This November's rate was 6.9 percent, representing a significant yearly increase of 2.2 percentage points. The change was the largest yearly increase in the November unemployment rate since 1982, a

Continued on page 3

Government of the
District of Columbia
Sharon Pratt Dixon, Mayor

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Department of
Employment Services
Floyd S. Goff
Acting Director

The
Department
of
Employment
Services

Working
to
keep
Washington
working.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR NOVEMBER 1990 JANUARY 1991

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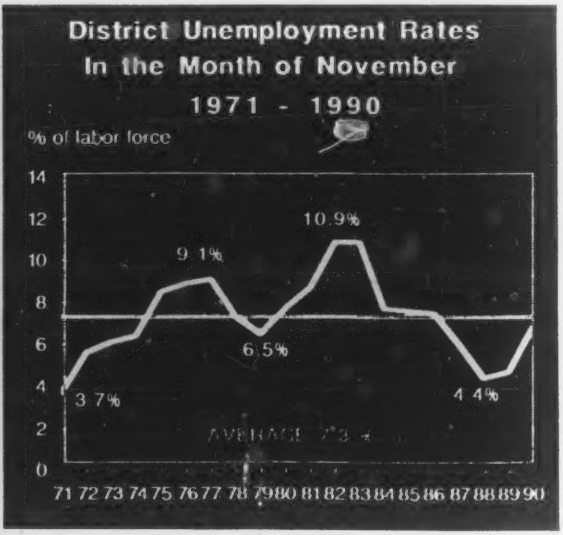
The *Area Labor Summary* is published monthly by the D.C. Department of Employment Services, 500 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The Labor Market Information and Research Staff (Richard Groner, Chief) prepares the *Summary*. The following staff members have contributed to the publication and development of data herein: Charles Roeslin, Rufus Daniels, Eileen Dent, Nancy Anderson-Grant, Elsie Taylor, and Gwendolyn Thompson, and administrative support was provided by Robin McDonald.

Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

Continued from page 1

period that marked the beginning of a national economic recession.

Over the past year, the size of the City's labor force contracted by over 18,000 workers, or nearly 6 percent. More significantly, the number of residents holding jobs fell by 23,800, or 8 percent. Joblessness rose by 5,400 or nearly 37 percent. Both the magnitude and direction of these changes mirror similar labor market changes which last occurred in the District during the recessions of the early 1980's. Still, the unemployment rate at 6.9 percent is below the long-term average of 7.3 percent for November. It is also significantly below the November rates during the last recession of 8.7 percent in November 1981 and the record November highs of 10.9 percent recorded in both November of 1982 and 1983. During these past recessions, the November unemployment levels measured between 33,000-34,000 jobless residents or about 14,000 more than are currently on unemployment rolls.



The Area & Suburbs

As in the District, the November supply of suburban workers declined by 21,800 or 1.1 percent and the employment levels contracted by 27,000 or 1.4 percent. The net result of the declines in the suburban labor force and jobholders was a 5,000, or an 8 percent monthly increase in the level of unemployment, bringing the number of jobless suburbanites to 62,700.

Compared to November a year earlier, the current pool of unemployed suburbanites is substantially larger than last year. **Over the year, unemployment among suburbanites grew by 23,500 workers, an increase of 60 percent.** During the past year, the growth in the suburban labor supply was nominal, only 1,100 in a labor force of 1.9 million. Since the suburbs did not add a large number of new workers, the increase in unemployment appears to be almost exclusively comprised of the 22,500 suburban workers who lost jobs. As a result of these changes, the suburban jobless rate rose a significant 1.2 percentage points over the past 12 months.

When November changes in the District and the suburbs were combined, the Washington Area's unemployment rate increased three-tenths of a point in November. The increase is principally the result of a monthly decline of 28,800 in the number of Area residents holding jobs. The Area's

Continued on page 4

Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C., MSA by City and County

	Nov.a/ 1990	Oct.b/ 1990	Nov.b/ 1989
1. **District of Columbia**	**6.9**	**6.6**	**4.7**
2. Frederick County	6.0	4.8	2.0
3. Calvert County	5.3	4.4	2.6
4. Stafford County	5.1	3.5	2.1
5. Prince Georges Cty.	4.4	4.1	2.7
6. Manassas City	4.1	2.6	1.1
7. Charles County	4.0	3.3	2.1
8. Prince William Cty.	3.2	2.6	1.9
9. Montgomery County	3.1	2.8	2.1
10. Alexandria City	2.9	3.1	2.2
11. Manassas Park City	2.9	1.9	1.5
12. Arlington County	2.6	2.4	1.9
13. Fairfax County	2.3	2.2	1.7
14. Loudoun County	2.2	1.9	1.6
15. Falls Church City	2.0	1.7	1.8
16. Fairfax City	1.8	1.5	1.8

a/ Preliminary. b/ Revised.

SOURCE: The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Continued from page 3

labor supply also declined by 22,900 in November, but this decline was smaller than the employment decline. As a result, the Area's unemployment rolls grew over the month by 5,700 workers. Suburbanites accounted for approximately 95 percent of the monthly decrease in the Area's labor force, as well as, 94 percent of the workers losing their jobs. Similarly, suburbanites comprised 88 percent of the 5,700 monthly increase in the Area's unemployment roll.

Over the past year (November 1989 to November 1990), the increase in Area joblessness was significant and reflects large losses in jobs held by Area residents. Examining the Area's unemployment, the ledger shows the number of Area residents experiencing unemployment increased by 28,900 over the year. **This represents a yearly increase in the Area's unemployment of nearly 54 percent. Over 80 percent of the increase represents unemployed workers who live in the suburbs.**

Over the year, the number of Area residents on employer payrolls declined by 46,300, or by 2.1 percent. The decline in employment was fairly evenly distributed among both District residents and suburbanites. Most of the decline resulted in an expansion in the unemployment rolls, but some workers simply left the labor force. Virtually all of the 17,300-person drop in the labor force occurred in the District. On the other hand, there virtually was no growth in the suburban labor force during the past 12 months. This explains why Area unemployment rates are remaining relatively low despite the rapid contraction in Area jobs.

The current depressed economic activity in the Washington Area is resulting in a declining labor force with falling levels of employment and rising levels of unemployment. Unlike in past recessions, the labor market impact is visible both in the District and the suburbs. These labor market trends should continue for at least the next several months. The next important measurements probably will occur in late spring when the local economy traditionally produces a significant employment expansion.

Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA
November 1990[a/]

	Nov.[b/] 1990	Oct.[c/] 1990	Nov.[d/] 1989	Oct.[d/] 1989	Net Change from Oct. 1990	Net Change from Nov. 1989
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	293,100	294,200	311,500	314,200	-1,100	-18,400
Total Employed	273,000	274,800	296,800	300,400	-1,800	-23,800
Total Unemployed	20,100	19,400	14,700	13,800	700	5,400
Unemployment Rate[e/]	6.9	6.6	4.7	4.4	0.3	2.2
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,905,000	1,926,800	1,903,900	1,898,300	-21,800	1,100
Total Employed	1,842,200	1,869,200	1,864,700	1,854,800	-27,000	-22,500
Total Unemployed	62,700	57,700	39,200	43,500	5,000	23,500
Unemployment Rate[e/]	3.3	3.0	2.1	2.3	0.3	1.2
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,198,100	2,221,000	2,215,400	2,212,500	-22,900	-17,300
Total Employed	2,115,200	2,144,000	2,161,500	2,155,200	-28,800	-46,300
Total Unemployed	82,800	77,100	53,900	57,300	5,700	28,900
Unemployment Rate[e/]	3.8	3.5	2.4	2.6	0.3	1.4

a/ Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding. b/ Preliminary. c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions. e/ Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia, the Virginia Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, Frederick, and Calvert.

Labor Force Distribution Washington Metropolitan Area November 1990 & November 1989
(percent)

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
		NOVEMBER 1990	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.3	12.9	24.3
Suburbs	86.7	87.1	75.7
		NOVEMBER 1989	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	14.1	13.7	27.3
Suburbs	85.9	86.3	72.7

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

The number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits in the District of Columbia totaled 7,177 in November 1990 down 3,946 claimants from October, and down 1,498 from November 1989. In November 1990, 54 percent of all UI claimants were males. Occupationally, clerical and sales, and professional, technical and managerial workers each accounted for 26 percent of the total workers. Service workers followed with 20 percent, structural workers 16 percent, miscellaneous workers 6 percent and the remaining 6 percent distributed between machine trade workers, bench workers, processing workers and farming, fishery, forestry and related occupational workers.

The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 10.0 weeks for all claimants in November. Over the month, the duration for males rose from 9.5 weeks to 9.7 weeks. For females, the duration also rose from 9.8 weeks to 10.3 weeks. In November 1989, the average duration was 10.0 weeks for males and 10.3 for females.

Job Growth

The District

The number of jobs in the District increased by 1,100 for a gain of 0.2 percent between October and November. The private sector was responsible for the growth with primarily seasonal gains in Services (700 jobs) and Trade (600 jobs).

The public sector grew by 100 jobs with primarily seasonal gains in State and Local Government (700 jobs) partially offset by a decrease in Federal Government (600 jobs).

Over the year (November 1989 to November 1990), the number of District jobs declined 0.8 percent for a loss of 5,600 jobs. **The private sector decreased at a rate of 1.3 percent for a loss of 5,500 jobs.** The primary job loser, Trade, accounted for 65 percent of the private sector decrease with a loss of 3,600 jobs. The substantial decline in Trade reflects both a lower level of seasonal hiring this year and the recent closing of several important retail establishments. Significant private sector losses also occurred in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (800 jobs), Construction (500 jobs) and Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (500 jobs).

The public sector declined by 100 jobs with a loss in Federal Government (1,800 jobs) partially offset by a gain in State and Local Government (1,700 jobs).

Continued on page 6

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Continued from page 5

The Suburbs

The number of suburban jobs increased 0.1 percent for a gain of 1,000 jobs between October and November. The private sector was primarily responsible for the growth with seasonal gains in Trade (5,800 jobs) partially offset by declines in Construction (4,500 jobs) and Services (800 jobs). The Maryland suburbs accounted for 55 percent of the Trade growth while the Virginia suburbs were responsible for 51 percent of the loss in Construction and all of the decline in Services.

The public sector increased by 400 jobs with an increase in State and Local Government (1,100 jobs) partially offset by a decline in Federal Government (700 jobs). The Virginia suburbs accounted for 55 percent of the growth in State and Local Government while the loss in Federal Government was equally distributed between the two suburban areas.

Over the year (November 1989 to November 1990), suburban jobs declined at a rate of 0.6 percent for a loss of 9,200 jobs. **The Maryland suburbs grew at a rate of 0.2 percent while the Virginia suburbs decreased at a rate of 1.4 percent.**

The private sector, declining at a rate of 0.6 percent, accounted for the loss in suburban jobs with growth in the service-producing sector (5,100 jobs) offset by a decline in the goods-producing sector (20,300 jobs). Job losses were primarily concentrated in Construction (17,100 jobs) and Manufacturing (3,200 jobs) while the primary job gainers were Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (2,300 jobs) and Trade (2,200 jobs). Seventy-eight percent of the Construction loss and two-thirds of the growth in the latter two industries occurred in the Virginia suburbs while the Maryland suburbs accounted for 61 percent of the loss in Manufacturing. The Virginia suburbs were also responsible for all of the growth in Services (1,400 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 1.9 percent with growth in State and Local Government (8,600 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (2,600 jobs). Eighty-seven percent of the growth in government occurred in the Maryland suburbs.

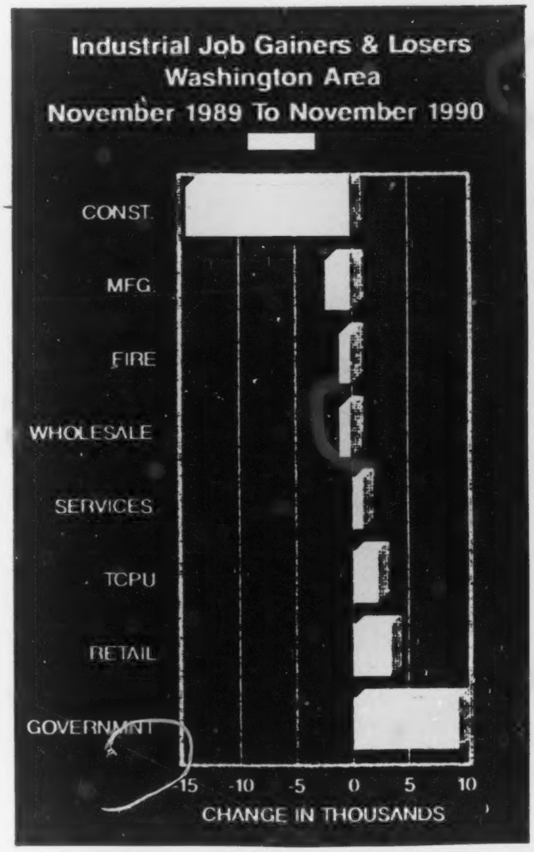
The Area

The Washington Metropolitan Area gained 2,100 jobs between October and November for an increase of 0.1 percent. The private sector was responsible for the growth with a seasonal gain in Trade (6,400 jobs) partially offset by losses primarily in Construction (4,600 jobs).

The public sector increased by 500 jobs with gains in State and Local Government (1,800 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (1,300 jobs).

Over the year (November 1989 to November 1990), the Area declined at a rate of 0.7 percent for a loss of 14,800 jobs. **The private sector, declining at a rate of 1.2 percent for a loss of 20,700 jobs, was responsible for the Area job loss.** Job losses were concentrated in Construc-

Continued on page 7



Industrial Job Gainers & Losers
Washington Area
November 1989 To November 1990

Continued from page 6

tion (17,600 jobs), Manufacturing (3,100 jobs), Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,600 jobs) and Trade (1,400 jobs) while job growth occurred in Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities (1,800 jobs) and Services (1,200 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 1.0 percent with gains in State and Local Government (10,300 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (4,400 jobs).

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a/]
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	Nov.[b/] 1990	Oct.[c/] 1990	Nov.[d/] 1989	Nov.[b/] 1990	Oct.[c/] 1990	Nov.[d/] 1989
TOTAL	**683.8**	**682.7**	**689.4**	**2,250.2**	**2,248.1**	**2,265.0**
Total Private Sector	**408.3**	**407.3**	**413.8**	**1,652.9**	**1,651.3**	**1,673.6**
Total Government	**275.5**	**275.4**	**275.6**	**597.3**	**596.8**	**591.4**
Total Goods Producing	**30.4**	**30.5**	**30.8**	**220.5**	**225.8**	**241.2**
Manufacturing	**16.1**	**16.1**	**16.0**	**86.9**	**87.6**	**90.0**
Total Durables	2.4	2.4	2.2	41.1	41.4	43.7
Stone, Clay, Glass Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.0	3.1	3.4
Electronic & Electric Equip.	N/A	N/A	N/A	16.9	17.0	17.3
All Other Durable	N/A	N/A	N/A	21.2	21.3	23.0
Total Non-Durable	13.7	13.7	13.8	45.8	46.2	46.3
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	4.7	4.7	4.8
Printing & Publishing	13.0	13.0	13.1	35.3	35.6	35.6
All Other Non-Durable	0.4	0.4	0.4	5.8	5.9	5.9
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**1.1**	**1.1**	**1.1**
Construction	**14.2**	**14.3**	**14.7**	**132.5**	**137.1**	**150.1**
Total Service Producing	**653.4**	**652.2**	**658.6**	**2029.7**	**2022.3**	**2023.8**
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	**24.4**	**24.4**	**24.9**	**113.8**	**113.0**	**112.0**
All Transportation	9.5	9.6	9.8	59.4	58.9	57.1
Railroads	4.2	4.2	4.1	5.3	5.3	5.3
Transportation ex. Railroad	5.3	5.4	5.7	54.1	53.6	51.8
Communications & Public Utilities	14.9	14.8	15.1	54.4	54.1	54.9
Trade	**62.3**	**61.7**	**65.9**	**446.5**	**440.1**	**447.9**
Wholesale	8.1	8.2	8.3	78.1	77.8	78.7
Retail	54.2	53.5	57.6	368.4	362.3	369.2
General Merchandise	N/A	N/A	N/A	42.5	39.6	44.3
Food Stores	N/A	N/A	N/A	54.5	53.6	51.3
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	37.7	38.1	38.7
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	27.9	26.6	29.4
Eating & Drinking Places	27.3	27.1	29.1	116.4	116.4	116.8
All Other Retail	26.9	26.4	28.5	89.4	88.0	88.7

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work a/
(in thousands)

INDUSTRY	District of Columbia Nov.b/ 1990	District of Columbia Oct.c/ 1990	District of Columbia Nov.d/ 1989	Metropolitan Area Nov.b/ 1990	Metropolitan Area Oct.c/ 1990	Metropolitan Area Nov.d/ 1989
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**32.6**	**32.8**	**33.4**	**129.4**	**129.6**	**131.0**
Finance	15.4	15.4	15.9	60.2	60.1	60.9
Depository Institutions	8.4	8.4	9.2	39.1	39.0	39.7
Other Finance	7.0	7.0	6.7	21.1	21.1	21.2
Insurance	7.5	7.4	7.7	26.8	26.8	26.9
Real Estate	9.7	10.0	9.8	42.4	42.7	43.2
Services	**258.6**	**257.9**	**258.8**	**742.7**	**742.8**	**741.5**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	17.2	17.4	17.0	37.5	37.7	37.0
Personal Services	3.2	3.3	3.6	22.7	22.8	22.6
Business Services	38.4	39.0	41.5	179.4	180.5	182.5
Services to Buildings	14.4	14.6	15.7	N/A	N/A	N/A
Personnel Supply	7.7	8.0	9.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	6.0	6.1	6.1	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Business Services	10.3	10.3	10.2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	37.1	36.9	36.8	114.9	114.4	112.4
Legal Services	30.6	30.3	29.9	41.6	41.2	40.6
Educational Services	32.8	31.7	30.3	46.7	45.4	44.2
Social Services	12.4	12.3	12.3	34.4	34.3	33.8
Membership Organizations	33.8	33.8	32.9	60.2	60.1	58.7
Engineering/Management Ser.	43.0	43.2	44.0	142.6	142.7	146.2
All Other Services	10.1	10.0	10.5	62.7	63.7	63.5
Government	**275.5**	**275.4**	**275.6**	**597.3**	**596.8**	**591.4**
Federal Government	218.3	218.9	220.1	361.6	362.9	366.0
State & Local Government	57.2	56.5	55.5	235.7	233.9	225.4
State Government	52.4	51.7	50.7	83.9	83.2	81.7
Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	151.8	150.7	143.7
Public Transportation	4.8	4.8	4.8	N/A	N/A	N/A

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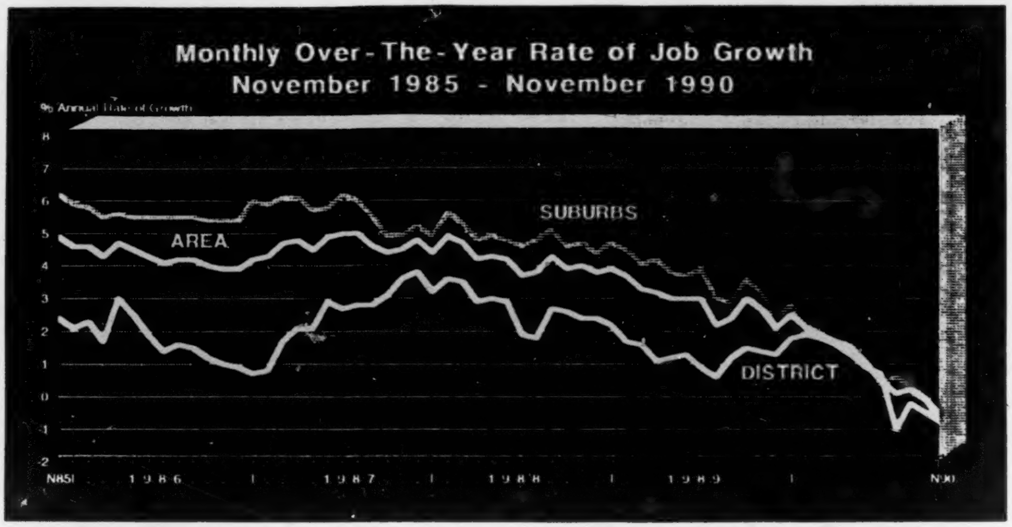
a/ Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. b/ Preliminary. c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions.

Data includes all full-and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

SOURCE: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Monthly Over-The-Year Rate of Job Growth
November 1985 - November 1990

Area Job Growth Rates

Over the past five years (November 1985 to November 1990), the Washington Area has created new jobs at a rate of 3.5 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has declined from a peak of 5.2 percent in November of 1985 to a net loss of seven-tenths of a percent in November of 1990. **This was the second consecutive month that the Washington Area recorded an over-the-year job loss.** This year's over-the-year loss was down sharply from a 2.7 percent increase reported in October 1989.

During November, suburban over-the-year job growth turned negative for the first time since August 1982, a month during the national recession of the early 1980's. This negative suburban number was down significantly from the yearly growth of 3.2 percent reported in November 1989. In the District, the number of jobs declined over the year by eight-tenths of a percentage point. The loss of District jobs this year compares to a growth of 1.4 percent a year ago.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from a gain of 95,900 new jobs between November 1984 and November 1985, to a loss of 14,800 jobs between November 1989 and this past November. Over the past year, 9,200 jobs were lost by the Suburban economy, while the District lost 5,600 jobs. **The U.S. economy in November produced a very small number of new jobs compared to the net job losses of the Washington Area (an 0.8 percent increase in the U.S. economy vs. the local loss of 0.7 percent).** November marked the tenth consecutive month in which the rate of local job creation was below the rate for all of the United States. Thus, in the downside of the current business cycle, job losses in the Washington Area economy are preceding declines in the national economy.

NOTE: It should be recognized that the monthly estimates of jobs are subject to annual benchmark revisions. These revisions can be plus or minus one percent or more, a range well within the current measurements of change.

Profile of Job Growth Rates
November 1985 to November 1990

The Area	
Average 60 months	3.5%
High, November 1985	5.2%
Low, November 1990	−0.7%
1-year ago	2.7%
Last month	−0.1%
Current month	−0.7%
The Suburbs	
Average 60 months	4.3%
High, November 1985	6.8%
Low, November 1990	−0.6%
1-year ago	3.2%
Last month	0.0%
Current month	−0.6%
The District	
Average 60 months	1.8%
High, December 1987	3.8%
Low, August 1990	−1.0%
1-year ago	1.4%
Last month	−0.5%
Current month	−0.8%

Note: Data reflects benchmark revisions for 1988-1989.

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Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Areas

In October 1990, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 269 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The Washington Area's October jobless rate was down 0.1 percentage point to 3.4 percent. This was the twenty-ninth lowest jobless rate of the 269 areas reporting. A year ago, the Washington Area rate was 2.6 percent.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 3.4 percent was the second lowest of all the major metropolitan areas.

The Baltimore Area, only 35 miles north of Washington, reported no change in their October jobless rate at 4.9 percent. The Baltimore rate has increased three of the last five months. A year ago, the Baltimore rate was 3.5 percent, up 1.4 percentage points.

The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, recorded a 0.6 percentage point decrease in its October jobless rate, down from 4.3 percent to 3.7 percent. A year ago, the rate was 4.1 percent.

In addition to the Washington, D.C. Area, jobless rates between 3.0 percent and 3.9 percent were reported in 8 other selected metropolitan areas, the lowest being recorded in San Francisco 3.3 percent.

There were 14 large metropolitan areas with rates between 4.0 and 4.9 percent. There were 13 large metropolitan areas with rates between 5.0 and 5.9 percent, and 4 large metropolitan areas with rates between 6.0 and 6.9 percent. There were 3 areas with rates 7 percent or above with the largest posted by Detroit at 7.2 percent.

Of the 269 metropolitan areas for which October data are available, 50 had over-the-year increases of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rate, while 29 had decreases of that magnitude. A total of 57 areas had October 1990 rates below 4 percent, while 39 had rates of 7 percent or higher.

Unemployment Rates in Selected Statistical Areas

MSA	October 1990*	October 1989
1. San Francisco, CA	3.3	2.9
2. Washington, D.C.	**3.4**	**2.6**
3. Seattle, WA	3.5	4.3
4. Milwaukee, WI	3.5	3.8
5. Phoenix, AR	3.7	4.0
6. Richmond-Petersburg, VA	3.7	4.1
7. Denver, CO	3.8	4.5
8. Salt Lake City, UT	3.8	3.8
9. Louisville, KY	3.8	4.4
10. Oakland, CA	4.0	3.7
11. Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	4.1	3.6
12. Cincinnati, OH	4.2	4.5
13. Nashville, TN	4.2	3.7
14. Buffalo, NY	4.3	4.9
15. Columbus, OH	4.5	4.8
16. Indianapolis, IN	4.6	4.9
17. Portland, OR	4.6	4.7
18. Sacramento, CA	4.6	4.3
19. Dallas, TX	4.6	5.1
20. Memphis, TN	4.7	4.4
21. San Diego, CA	4.7	3.8
22. Houston, TX	4.7	5.3
23. Baltimore, MD	4.9	3.5
24. Cleveland, OH	5.0	5.0
25. Kansas City, MO	5.0	4.6
26. Jackson, MS	5.0	4.7
27. Pittsburgh, PA	5.1	4.2
28. Boston, MA	5.2	3.5
29. Philadelphia, PA	5.3	3.9
30. Gary, IN	5.4	5.7
31. Atlanta, GA	5.4	5.4
32. Oklahoma, City, OK	5.5	4.2
33. Dayton, OH	5.7	6.2
34. Chicago, IL	5.7	6.2
35. Newark, NJ	5.8	5.2
36. Birmingham, AL	5.9	5.3
37. St. Louis, MO	6.2	5.5
38. Los Angeles, CA	6.2	4.2
39. New Orleans, LA	6.7	6.4
40. Miami, FL	6.9	6.5
41. Montgomery, AL	7.0	5.9
42. New York, NY	7.0	5.1
43. Detroit, MI	7.2	8.0

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

States

When the District of Columbia (with an October preliminary unemployment rate of 6.6 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the fourth highest jobless rate in the Country. This was two notches above September's standing. Virginia's rate at 4.2 percent was down 0.1 percentage point from September. Maryland's rate at 4.5 percent was unchanged from September. Virginia and Maryland have two of the fifteen lowest jobless rates among the 51 jurisdictions. This month, Maryland and Virginia ranked thirty-seventh and forty-third, respectively, in the standings. A year ago, Maryland's rate was 3.3 percent, while Virginia's rate was unchanged over the year at 4.2 percent.

Ten states and the District of Columbia reported October 1989-90 increases in their unemployment rate of 1 percentage point or more. The largest increase was in the District of Columbia (2.2 points) followed by Massachusetts (1.9 points), Delaware (1.8 points) and Pennsylvania (1.5 points). West Virginia was the only state with an unemployment rate decline of more than 1 percentage point.

Six states had October unemployment rates below 4 percent, with Nebraska (2.0 percent) and Hawaii (2.8 percent) having the lowest rates. In contrast, unemployment rates were higher than 7 percent in three states—West Virginia (8.1 percent), Alabama (7.3 percent) and Michigan (7.2 percent).

Cities

In comparison with the 25 selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with an October preliminary rate of 6.6 percent) had the twelfth lowest jobless rate. This was the same position held last month. In October, the average unemployment rate of the 26 cities was the same as September, 7.0 percent. A year ago, the average rate was 0.3 percentage point lower at 6.7 percent.

Nine cities reported jobless rates at or below 6 percent, with the lowest posted in San Francisco at 3.9 percent, followed by Salt Lake City at 4.1 percent. Milwaukee, Columbus and Pittsburgh reported jobless rates of 4.6 percent, 4.8 percent and 4.9 percent, respectively.

Baltimore's rate at 7.5 percent was unchanged from September. Baltimore held the sixteenth position among the 26 selected cities. The October 1990 rate was 1.9 percentage points higher than the October 1989 rate.

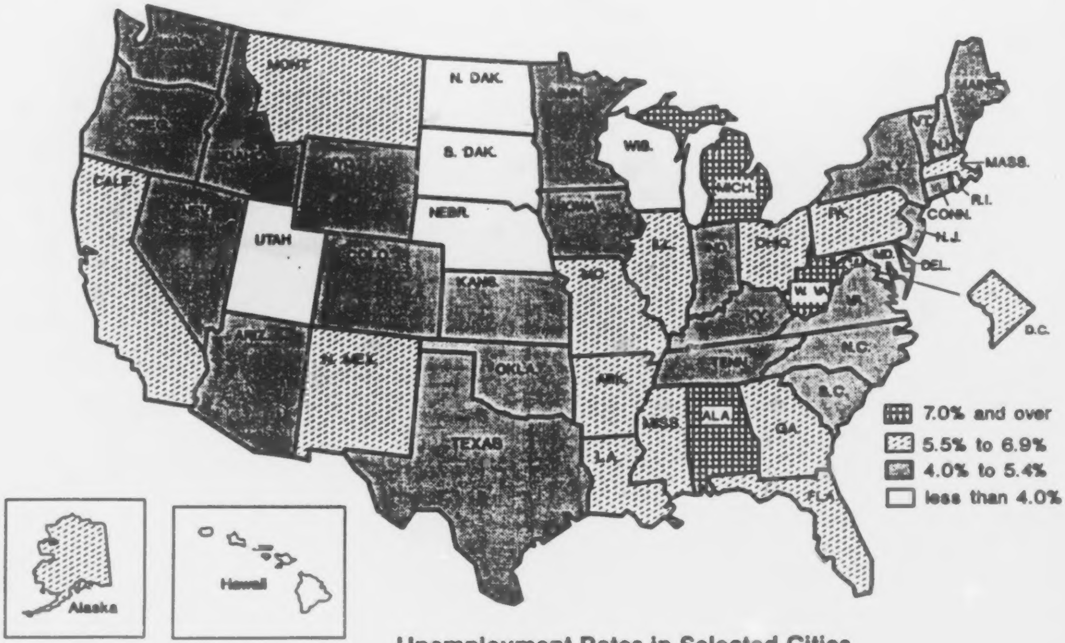
For the second consecutive month, Gary was not in the double digit column. However, Gary's October jobless rate rose 0.2 percentage point to 9.5 percent. This is 0.4 percentage point lower than the 9.9 percent posted in October 1989.

This was the second consecutive month that Newark was in the double digit column. Newark's jobless rate was the second highest among the 26 cities, rising 0.5 percentage point over the month to 10.9 percent. Last October, Newark's rate was 10.0 percent.

Detroit's jobless rate rose 0.8 percentage points over the month to 11.0 percent. Detroit held the twenty-fifth position in September but reclaimed the twenty-sixth position this month. However, the 11.0 percent is 1.3 percent lower than the 12.3 percent recorded a year ago.

Of the 26 selected central cities, twelve cities reported decreases in joblessness while thirteen cities reported increases in joblessness over the year. The largest decreases were reported by Dayton and Detroit, 1.4 and 1.3 percentage points, respectively. The largest increase in joblessness was reported by New York, 2.3 percentage points. **The District of Columbia followed with a 2.2 percentage point increase.** Los Angeles reported a 2.1 percentage point rise in joblessness. The jobless rate in Cleveland was unchanged over the year at 8.0 percent.

Unemployment rates by state, October 1990


MONT.
N. DAK.
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MD.
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N.Y.
VT.
N.H.
MAINE
MASS.
R.I.
CONN.
N.J.
DEL.
D.C.
Alaska
Hawaii
▦ 7.0% and over
▨ 5.5% to 6.9%
▩ 4.0% to 5.4%
☐ less than 4.0%

Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities

	October 1990*	 1989
1. San Francisco, CA	3.9	3.6
2. Salt Lake City, UT	4.1	4.0
3. Milwaukee, WI	4.6	5.1
4. Columbus, OH	4.8	5.2
5. Pittsburgh, PA	4.9	4.1
6. Houston, TX	5.1	5.8
7. Cincinnati, OH	5.4	5.8
8. Dallas, TX	5.5	5.9
9. Boston, MA	5.8	4.2
10. Buffalo, NY	6.2	7.0
11. New Orleans, LA	6.3	6.9
12. District of Columbia	**6.6**	**4.4**
13. Los Angeles, CA	6.9	4.8
14. Philadelphia, PA	7.3	5.0
15. Chicago, IL	7.4	8.3
16. Baltimore, MD	7.5	5.6
17. New York, NY	7.7	5.4
18. Atlanta, GA	7.7	8.2
19. Cleveland, OH	8.0	8.0
20. Dayton, OH	8.4	9.8
21. Birmingham, AL	8.4	7.1
22. Miami, FL	8.5	8.0
23. St. Louis, MO	9.1	8.8
24. Gary, IN	9.5	9.9
25. Newark, NJ	10.9	10.0
26. Detroit, MI	11.0	12.3

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

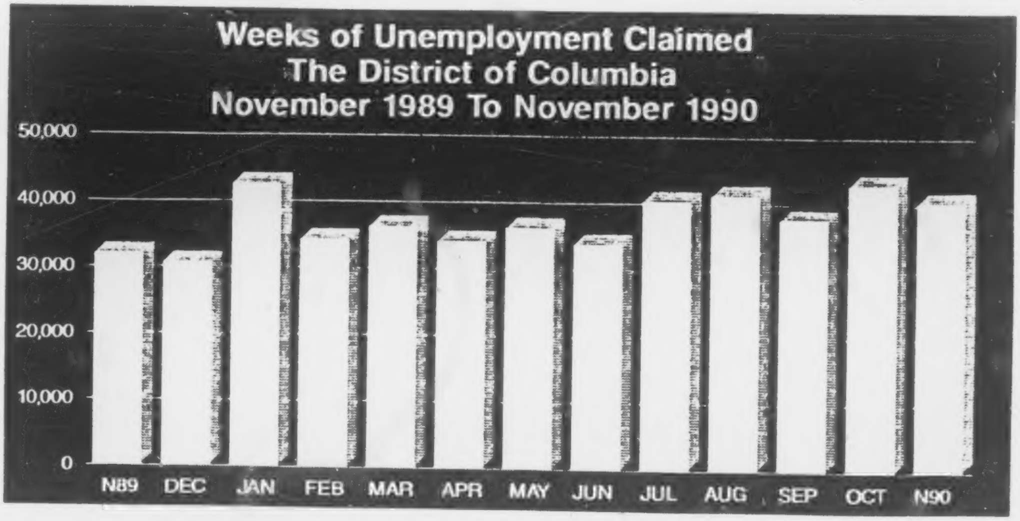
Unemployment Insurance Activities November 1990

During November 1990 there were 3,850 new claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits by workers in the District of Columbia who lost their jobs through no fault of their own. This number was 2 percent lower than October. However, the drop in claims from last month was expected to be more than 2 percent based on prior years of experience. October was somewhat seasonally high because of the change-of-base period surge in claimants.

However, there was an added factor this October—the economic slowdown of 1990. The downturn contributed to the unusually high claimsload for this October, and also to November and other months. The normal November decrease—in the 10 to 12 percent range—was offset as a result. The November claimsload this year is 46 percent above the same time last year. The average monthly claims level through November was 3,381. November was 14 percent higher than the average. The average for the two months of the fourth quarter was 3,891 compared to 2,998 for the second quarter. This indicates that the latter part of the year is the point at which the brunt of the downturn is being felt by the Unemployment Compensation System.

The idle weeks compensated dropped 6 percent from last month, but as did the initial claims, rose substantially (27 percent) above November last year. Benefit outlay principally mirrored the weeks compensated in relative movements. Outlay totalled $8.7 million in November.

The benefit outlay for January-November 1990 was $86.0 million—compensation for 415,320 idle weeks. This compares to $73.9 million and 373,960 weeks for the same period in 1989. The 11 month experience of outlay and compensated weeks this year has already eclipsed the total for all of 1989.



Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
November 1990

	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	% Change From Oct. 1990	% Change From Nov. 1989
State UI Program[a/]					
Initial Claims Taken	3,756	3,756	2,520	+0.0	+49.0
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	37,990	40,651	29,591	-6.5	+28.4
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	38,575	41,453	29,764	-6.9	+29.6
Total Benefits Paid	$8,098,866	$8,755,179	$5,855,500	-7.5	+38.3
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$209.95	$211.21	$196.73	-0.6	+6.7
Number of First Payments	2,123	2,068	1,372	+2.7	+54.7
Number of Final Payments	904	1,079	822	-16.2	+10.0
Total Beneficiaries	10,871	10,776	7,847	+0.9	+38.5
Federal Program[b/]					
Initial Claims Taken	72	145	81	-50.3	-11.1
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	2,100	2,074	2,136	+1.3	-1.7
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,261	2,132	2,301	+6.1	-1.7
Total Benefits Paid	$499,568	$486,339	$516,713	+2.7	-3.3
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$220.95	$228.11	$224.56	-3.1	-1.6
Number of First Payments	121	117	108	+3.4	+12.0
Number of Final Payments	48	56	82	-14.3	-41.5
Total Beneficiaries	557	540	619	+3.1	-10.0
Ex-Servicepersons Program[c/]					
Initial Claims Taken	20	33	27	-39.4	-25.9
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	349	366	293	-4.6	+19.1
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	295	259	226	+13.9	+30.5
Total Benefits Paid	$62,417	$54,434	$48,895	+14.7	+27.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$211.58	$210.17	$216.35	+0.7	-2.2
Number of First Payments	29	27	25	+7.4	+16.0
Number of Final Payments	17	16	16	+6.3	+6.3
Total Beneficiaries	81	78	73	+3.8	+11.0
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	3,848	3,934	2,628	-2.2	+46.4
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	40,439	43,091	32,020	-6.2	+26.3
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	41,131	43,844	32,291	-6.2	+27.4
Total Benefits Paid	$8,660,851	$9,295,952	$6,421,108	-6.8	+34.9
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$210.57	$212.02	$198.85	-0.7	+5.9
Number of First Payments	1,767	2,212	1,505	-20.1	+17.4
Number of Final Payments	969	1,151	920	-15.8	+5.3
Total Beneficiaries	11,509	11,390	8,539	+1.0	+34.8

a/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

b/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation of Ex-Serviceperson (UCX).

c/ No joint claims.

The Washington, D.C. Area Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area rose 0.3 percent during the 2 months ended in November to a level of 138.4 (1982-84=100). **For the 12-month period ended in November the CPI-U rose 6.1 percent.** The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose 0.2 percent from September to November. The November level of 137.2 (1982-84=100) was 5.9 percent higher than the index in November 1989.

The 0.3 percent increase in the CPI-U from September to November follows an increase of 1.7 percent in the preceding 2-month period. Downturns in the indexes for apparel, housing, food, and entertainment were responsible for the moderation. These declines, however, were more than offset by the large increases in the transportation, medical care, and other goods and services components.

The transportation index—up 3.9 percent from September to November—continued to advance sharply, largely as a result of a run up in prices for motor fuels. Gasoline prices rose 10.6 percent from September to November and accounted for half the advance in the transportation component. Higher costs were also recorded for airline travel, new cars, and automobile insurance. Medical care costs rose 3.6 percent, reflecting an increase of 4.6 percent in medical care services, particularly hospital related services.

The index for other goods and services rose 1.4 percent from September to November. Increased tuition and other school fees and higher costs of school books and supplies accounted for nearly all of the advance.

The index for apparel and upkeep, which had increased 8.9 percent from July to September in response to the introduction of fall and winter merchandise, declined 4.0 percent from September to November, reflecting heavy retailers' discounting.

Housing costs decreased 0.8 percent. The index for household fuels dropped 8.6 percent, as higher fuel oil prices were more than offset by lower charges for electricity and natural gas. Prices for housefurnishings decreased 4.5 percent, reflecting lower prices for textile housefurnishings and furniture and bedding. Partially offsetting those declines was a 0.4 percent increase in shelter costs. Renters' and homeowners' costs rose 0.6 and 0.3 percent, respectively.

Prices for food and beverages declined 0.1 percent. Grocery store food prices dropped 0.6 percent, primarily as a result of a decline in fresh fruit and vegetable prices. Partially offsetting this decline were increases in the indexes for food consumed away from home and alcoholic beverages—up 0.1 and 1.4 percent, respectively.

Among other categories of consumer spending, entertainment costs decreased 0.4 percent, following an increase of 1.9 percent from July to September.

Comparing the local CPI-U with the U.S. city average, the first five months of the year saw the prices of goods and services accelerating more rapidly nationally than locally. During the May-to-July period, the prices of goods and services accelerated more rapidly locally than nationally. For the July to September period, the acceleration was just about even. However, during the September-to-November period, the national acceleration more than doubled the local increase. The local index rose 0.3 percent, while the national index rose 0.8 percent. Over the year, the local index rose 6.1 percent and the national index rose 6.3 percent, only 0.2 percent higher nationally.

Over the month, the prices of goods and services tended to increase more rapidly nationally in four of the seven expenditure categories—food and beverages, housing, apparel and upkeep, and entertainment. On the other hand, prices of goods and services tended to increase more rapidly locally for transportation, medical care and other goods and services. During the September-to-November period, the prices of energy were up 1.3 percent locally compared to a 20.2 percent drop in energy prices nationally.

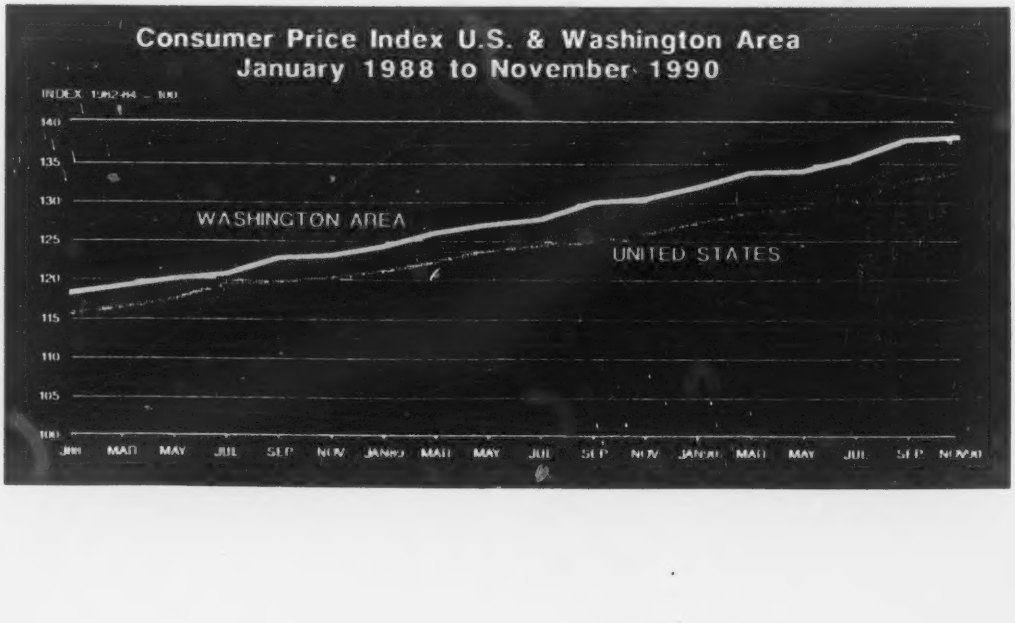
Washington, D.C.
Area Consumer Price Index
(All Urban Consumers—CPI-U)[a]

	November 1990	Percent Change 2 months Ago	Percent Change Year Ago
ALL Items			
U.S.	133.8	+0.8	+6.3
Washington Area	138.4	+0.3	+6.1
Expenditure Category			
Food & Beverage	133.8	-0.1	+4.7
Housing	137.7	-0.8	+5.0
Apparel & Upkeep	141.1	-4.0	+1.0
Transportation	127.1	+3.9	+8.6
Medical Care	170.2	+3.6	+13.8
Entertainment	139.0	-0.4	+7.9
Other Goods & Services	170.7	+1.4	+6.7
Special Index:			
Energy[b]	108.8	+1.3	+15.7

a/ 1982-84=100, except as noted.

b/ June 1978=100.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; table prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff.


Consumer Price Index U.S. & Washington Area
January 1988 to November 1990

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for November 1990 increased $5.51. Average Weekly Hours remained unchanged, while Average Hourly Earnings rose 13 cents.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Stone, Clay and Glass Products' Weekly Earnings and Weekly Hours decreased by $7.62 and 1.5 hours, respectively. The decrease was attributable to less business. On the other hand, Hourly Earnings increased 22 cents due to overtime.

In the Non-Durable Goods Sector, increases in Food and Kindred Products reflected overtime. As a result, Weekly Earnings rose $20.56. Weekly Hours rose 1 hour and Hourly Earnings increased 23 cents.

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
November 1990

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989
Total Manufacturing	501.96	496.83	489.24	39.4	39.4	40.3	12.74	12.61	12.14
Durable Goods	529.61	524.10	502.98	42.2	42.3	43.1	12.55	12.39	11.67
Stone Clay & Glass Products	539.24	546.86	528.61	45.2	46.7	48.9	11.93	11.71	10.81
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	491.56	487.75	448.38	41.1	41.3	42.3	11.96	11.81	10.60
Other Durable Goods	539.25	531.26	514.46	41.9	41.7	42.1	12.87	12.74	12.22
Non-Durable Goods	480.25	473.97	476.78	37.2	37.0	37.9	12.91	12.81	12.58
Food & Kindred Products	468.66	448.10	453.88	42.8	41.8	42.9	10.95	10.72	10.58
Printing & Publishing	505.05	499.47	501.84	35.0	35.1	36.0	14.43	14.23	13.94
Other Non-Durable Goods	400.90	395.78	396.95	42.2	41.4	42.5	9.50	9.56	9.34
Total Production Workers		Nov. 1990			Oct. 1990			Nov. 1989	
		38,900			39,700			41,600	

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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR DECEMBER 1990 FEBRUARY 1991

Area Unemployment Hits 4 Percent in December

Area Job Losses Slow

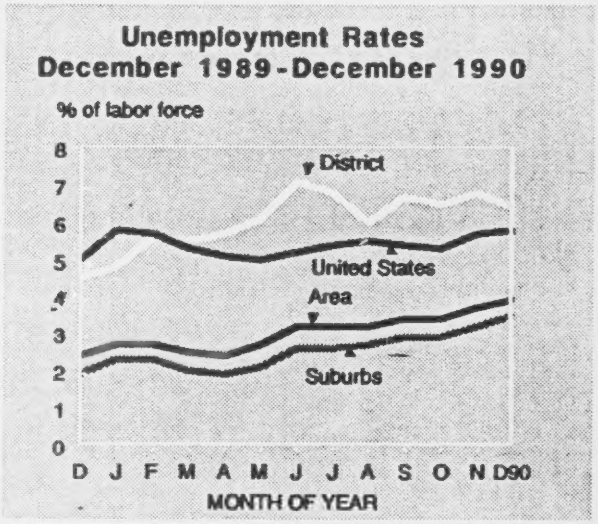
Labor Force

Increased unemployment among suburbanites in December pushed the Area's unemployment rate up to 4.0 percent of the labor force. This represents the first time that the Area's rate has been 4 percent or above since January 1985 when the rate was 4.2 percent. The unemployment rate among Washington suburbanites climbed from 3.3 percent in November to 3.6 percent in December. The District's monthly movement was contrary to the Area's and the suburbs'. The District's rate declined from 6.9 percent in November to 6.5 percent in December.

The seasonally unadjusted rate for all American workers in December was 5.9 percent, up from 5.8 percent in November and up from 5.1 percent in December 1989. December marked the eleventh consecutive month that the District's rate has been above that for the nation.

The District

The basic downward movement of the District's rate between November and December was principally seasonal and probably does not reflect any fundamental change in recent trends.



Over the past thirteen years the November-to-December rate dropped in 10 of the years and rose in only three. Reflecting the seasonal pattern this year, the District's labor force netted 1,600 new workers, while the increase in employment was even larger at 2,600. Thus, 1,000 residents were drawn from the unemployment rolls to fill the job increases. These changes forced the rate to drop four-tenths of a percent.

The effects of the recent downturn in the Area's economy are, however, clearly visible in the over-the-year comparisons. Since Decem-

Continued on page 3

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JOB SERVICE

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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR DECEMBER 1990 FEBRUARY 1991

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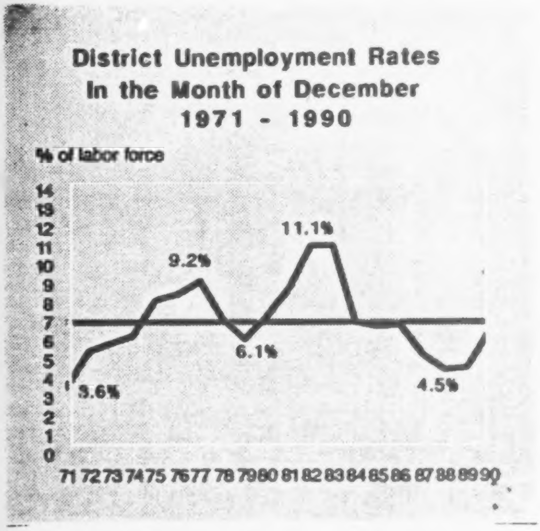
Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

Continued from page 1

ber 1989, the number of employed residents declined by 19,400 or a significant 6.6 percent. This loss of employment was offset by a somewhat smaller decline of 14,400 people or 4.7 percent in the size of the labor force. This indicates that some of the workers losing jobs simply may have withdrawn from active participation in the job market. Since the payroll decline was larger than the labor force decline, the over-the-year jobless rolls increased by 5,000, a rise of 35 percent in the number of jobless workers. As a result, the District's over-the-year unemployment rate rose a significant 1.9 percentage points. A statistical sign of the slump that has occurred in the local economy.


District Unemployment Rates In the Month of December 1971 - 1990

The Suburbs & The Area

In December, suburban employment declined by 14,800. The job loss led to a 10,700 person decrease in the work force and a 4,100 person increase in the jobless pool. The over-the-year pattern was similar. Between December 1989 and December 1990, the number of suburbanites with jobs contracted by 34,300. Only 5,300 persons left the labor force, thus, the jobless pool expanded significantly by 29,000 jobless workers. **This represents a 75 percent increase in the number of unemployed suburbanites.** As a result, the suburban unemployment rate was up over the year by 1.6 percentage points.

As a result of the significant changes during the past year in the District and suburban labor forces, the Area's job statistics are also significantly different than they were in December a year ago. The labor force is now smaller, fewer people have jobs and the unemployment rolls have expanded. In December, there were 87,000 Area workers unemployed. This is 34,000 more than a year earlier and represents a 64 percent expansion in Area joblessness.

It is interesting to note that for the first time in years, the unemployment rate in one of the suburban counties, Frederick, is higher than the rate in the District.

Seventy-three percent of the decline in the Area's labor force has occurred among District residents, probably reflecting an increase in labor market discouragement as residents are unable to quickly find employment. It may also reflect the relocation of some residents to the suburbs. On the other hand, 64 percent of the yearly decline in Area residents with jobs has

Continued on page 4

Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C., MSA by City and County

	Dec.a/ 1990	Nov.b/ 1990	Dec.b/ 1989
1. Frederick County	6.6	5.9	2.6
2. District of Columbia	**6.5**	**6.9**	**4.6**
3. Calvert County	6.0	5.2	2.9
4. Stafford County	4.8	4.3	2.1
5. Manassas City	4.7	4.0	1.5
6. Prince Georges Cty.	4.6	4.4	2.7
7. Charles County	4.3	4.0	2.1
8. Prince William Cty.	3.8	3.3	1.9
9. Alexandria City	3.8	3.4	2.2
10. Manassas Park City	3.8	2.9	1.2
11. Montgomery County	3.3	3.1	1.9
12. Arlington County	2.8	2.6	1.9
13. Fairfax County	2.5	2.3	1.6
14. Loudoun County	2.5	2.3	1.5
15. Falls Church City	2.2	2.0	1.4
16. Fairfax City	2.0	1.8	1.4

a/ Preliminary. b/ Revised.
SOURCE: The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Continued from page 3

occurred among persons living in the suburbs. This is also the case for people in the Area's expanded unemployment pool, where 85 percent of the over-the-year increase was represented by new unemployed suburbanites. As a result, nearly 80 percent of the Area's unemployed now live in the suburbs, up from 73 percent in December 1989. Clearly, suburbanites are experiencing the pains of unemployment in this current business cycle.

Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA
December 1990a/

	Dec.b/ 1990	Nov.c/ 1990	Dec.d/ 1989	Nov.d/ 1989	Net Change From Nov. 1990	Net Change From Dec. 1989
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	294,900	293,300	309,300	311,500	1,600	-14,400
Total Employed	275,700	273,100	295,100	296,800	2,600	-19,400
Total Unemployed	19,200	20,200	14,200	14,700	-1,000	5,000
Unemployment Ratese/	6.5	6.9	4.6	4.7	-0.4	1.9
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,897,400	1,908,100	1,902,700	1,903,900	-10,700	-5,300
Total Employed	1,829,600	1,844,400	1,863,900	1,864,700	-14,800	-34,300
Total Unemployed	67,800	63,700	38,800	39,200	4,100	29,000
Unemployment Ratee/	3.6	3.3	2.0	2.1	0.3	1.6
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,192,300	2,201,400	2,212,000	2,215,400	-9,100	-19,700
Total Employed	2,105,300	2,117,500	2,159,000	2,161,500	-12,200	-53,700
Total Unemployed	87,000	83,900	53,000	53,900	3,100	34,000
Unemployment Ratee/	4.0	3.8	2.4	2.4	0.2	1.6

a/ Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding. b/ Preliminary.
c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions. e/ Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia, the Virginia Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, and Stafford; and the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick, and Calvert.

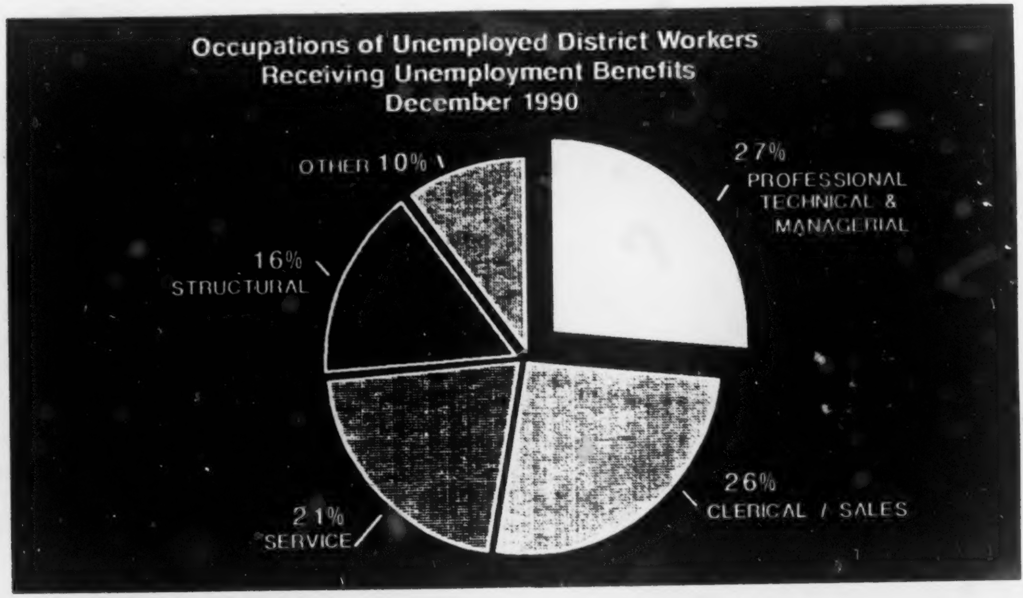
Labor Force Distribution
Washington Metropolitan Area
December 1990 & December 1989
(percent)

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
		December 1990	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.5	13.1	22.1
Suburbs	86.5	86.9	77.9
		December 1989	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	14.0	13.7	26.8
Suburbs	86.0	86.3	73.2

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

The number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits in the District of Columbia totaled 12,643 in December. In December 1990, 53 percent of all UI claimants were males. Occupationally, professional, technical and managerial workers accounted for 27 percent of the total workers. Clerical and Sales workers followed with 26 percent. Service workers were third with 21 percent and structural workers 16 percent, miscellaneous workers 5 percent, machine workers 1 percent and the remaining 4 percent distributed between bench workers, processing workers and farming, fishery, forestry and related occupational workers.

The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 9.6 weeks for all claimants in December. Over the month, the duration for males and females remained unchanged at 9.2 weeks. and 10.0 weeks, respectively. In December 1989, the average duration was 8.2 weeks for males and 9.3 for females.



Job Growth

The District

The number of jobs in the District increased by 3,700 for a gain of 0.5 percent between November and December. The private sector was responsible for slightly more than half the growth with a primarily seasonal gain in Services (2,100 jobs).

The public sector grew by 1,800 jobs with seasonal gains in both Federal Government (1,300 jobs) and State and Local Government (500 jobs).

Over the year (December 1989 to December 1990), the number of District jobs declined 0.8 percent for a loss of 5,300 jobs. **The private sector decreased at a rate of 1.0 percent for a loss of 4,300 jobs.** The primary job loser, Trade, accounted for 91 percent of the private sector decrease with a loss of 3,900 jobs. The substantial decline in Trade continues to reflect both a lower level of seasonal hiring this year and the recent closing of several important retail establishments. Significant private sector losses also occurred in Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (800 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (700 jobs).

The public sector declined by 1,000 jobs with a loss in Federal Government (2,200 jobs) partially offset by a gain in State and Local Government (1,200 jobs).

Continued on page 6

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Continued from page 5

The Suburbs

The number of suburban jobs decreased by less than 0.1 percent for a loss of 100 jobs between November and December. The private sector was responsible for the decline with seasonal gains in Trade (4,900 jobs) offset by losses in Construction (3,300 jobs) and Services (2,600 jobs). The Maryland suburbs accounted for 55 percent of the Trade growth and 58 percent of the decline in Services, while the Virginia suburbs were responsible for 61 percent of the loss in Construction.

The public sector increased by 900 jobs with increases in both Federal Government (600 jobs) and State and Local Government (300 jobs). The Virginia suburbs accounted for all of the growth in the public sector.

Over the year (December 1989 to December 1990), suburban jobs declined at a rate of 0.6 percent for a loss of 9,700 jobs. **The Maryland suburbs grew at a rate of 0.3 percent, while the Virginia suburbs decreased at a rate of 1.5 percent.**

The private sector, declining at a rate of 1.4 percent, accounted for the loss in suburban jobs with growth in the service-producing sector (1,000 jobs) offset by a decline in the goods-producing sector (18,800 jobs). Job losses were primarily concentrated in Construction (15,600 jobs) and Manufacturing (3,100 jobs), while the only job gains occurred in Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (1,800 jobs) and Services (800 jobs). Seventy-nine percent of the Construction loss occurred in the Virginia suburbs, while the Maryland suburbs accounted for half of the loss in Manufacturing and 58 percent of the growth in the latter two industries. The Maryland suburbs were also responsible for all of the decline in Trade (900 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 2.6 percent with growth in State and Local Government (10,500 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (2,400 jobs). Eighty percent of the growth in government occurred in the Maryland suburbs.

The Area

The Washington Metropolitan Area gained 3,500 jobs between November and December for an increase of 0.2 percent. The public sector was responsible for the growth with gains in both Federal Government (1,900 jobs) and State and Local Government (800 jobs).

The private sector increased by 800 jobs with a seasonal gain in Trade (5,100 jobs) partially offset by losses primarily concentrated in Construction (3,600 jobs).

Over the year (December 1989 to December 1990), the Area declined at a rate of 0.7 percent for a loss of 15,000 jobs. The private sector, declining at a rate of 1.3 percent for a loss of 22,100 jobs, was responsible for the Area job loss. Job losses were concentrated in Construction (15,900 jobs),

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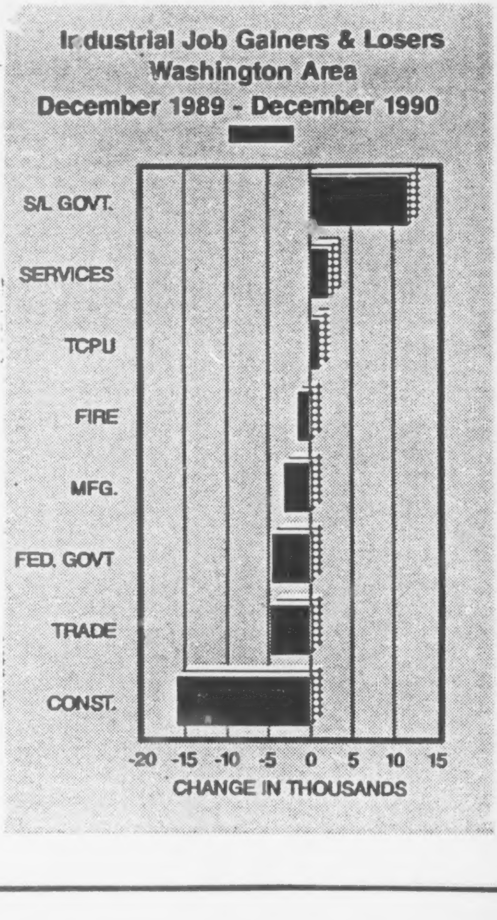

Industrial Job Gainers & Losers
Washington Area
December 1989 - December 1990

Continued from page 6

Trade (4,800 jobs), Manufacturing (3,100 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,400 jobs), while job growth occurred in Services (2,200 jobs) and Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities (1,000 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 1.2 percent with gains in State and Local Government (11,700 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (4,600 jobs).

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a]

(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	Dec.[b] 1990	Nov.[c] 1990	Dec.[d] 1989	Dec.[b] 1990	Nov.[c] 1990	Dec.[d] 1989
TOTAL	**687.8**	**684.1**	**693.1**	**2,254.5**	**2,251.0**	**2,269.5**
Total Private Sector	**410.4**	**408.5**	**414.7**	**1,654.3**	**1,653.5**	**1,676.4**
Total Government	**277.4**	**275.6**	**278.4**	**600.2**	**597.5**	**593.1**
Total Goods Producing	**30.1**	**30.4**	**30.4**	**217.1**	**221.0**	**236.2**
Manufacturing	**16.1**	**16.1**	**16.1**	**86.7**	**86.9**	**89.8**
Total Durables	2.4	2.4	2.4	41.0	41.1	43.5
Stone, Clay, Glass Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.9	3.0	3.3
Electronic & Electric Equip.	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.0	16.9	17.3
All Other Durable	N/A	N/A	N/A	21.1	21.2	22.9
Total Non-Durable	13.7	13.7	13.7	45.7	45.8	46.3
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	4.7	4.7	4.8
Printing & Publishing	13.0	13.0	13.0	35.0	35.3	35.6
All Other Non-Durable	0.4	0.4	0.4	6.0	5.8	5.9
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**1.0**	**1.1**	**1.1**
Construction	**13.9**	**14.2**	**14.2**	**129.4**	**133.0**	**145.3**
Total Service Producing	**657.7**	**653.7**	**662.7**	**2037.4**	**2030.0**	**2033.3**
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	**24.2**	**24.4**	**25.0**	**113.6**	**113.5**	**112.6**
All Transportation	9.4	9.5	9.8	59.4	59.1	57.5
Railroads	4.2	4.2	4.1	5.3	5.3	5.3
Transportation ex. Railroad	5.2	5.3	5.7	54.1	53.8	52.2
Communications & Public Utilities	14.8	14.9	15.2	54.2	54.4	55.1
Trade	**62.5**	**62.3**	**66.4**	**451.5**	**446.4**	**456.3**
Wholesale	8.2	8.1	8.2	78.6	78.1	78.2
Retail	54.3	54.2	58.2	372.9	368.3	378.1
General Merchandise	N/A	N/A	N/A	43.5	42.2	47.2
Food Stores	N/A	N/A	N/A	54.8	54.3	52.2
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	37.4	37.7	38.2
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	29.1	28.0	31.0
Eating & Drinking Places	27.3	27.4	29.0	116.8	116.8	117.5
All Other Retail	27.0	26.8	29.2	91.3	89.3	92.0

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a/]

(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	Dec.[b/] 1990	Nov.[c/] 1990	Dec.[c/] 1989	Dec.[b/] 1990	Nov.[c/] 1990	Dec.[c/] 1989
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**32.7**	**32.6**	**33.4**	**129.4**	**129.4**	**130.8**
Finance	15.3	15.3	15.9	60.0	60.0	61.1
Depository Institutions	8.3	8.4	9.2	39.0	39.0	40.0
Other Finance	7.0	6.9	6.7	21.0	21.0	21.1
Insurance	7.5	7.5	7.7	26.9	26.8	26.8
Real Estate	9.9	9.8	9.8	42.5	42.6	42.9
Services	**260.9**	**258.8**	**259.5**	**742.7**	**743.2**	**740.5**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	17.4	17.2	17.0	37.6	37.5	36.9
Personal Services	3.2	3.2	3.6	22.8	22.7	22.9
Business Services	39.2	38.5	41.4	178.6	179.6	182.1
Services to Buildings	14.7	14.4	15.8	N/A	N/A	N/A
Personnel Supply	8.1	7.8	9.6	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	6.1	6.0	6.1	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Business Services	10.3	10.3	9.9	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	37.3	37.1	37.1	115.5	115.1	112.3
Legal Services	30.8	30.6	30.0	41.6	41.6	40.8
Educational Services	32.8	32.8	30.1	46.8	46.8	43.9
Social Services	12.5	12.4	12.4	34.7	34.5	33.7
Membership Organizations	34.1	33.8	32.9	60.6	60.2	58.8
Engineering/Management Ser	43.4	43.1	44.3	142.5	142.6	146.0
All Other Services	10.2	10.1	10.7	62.0	62.6	63.1
Government	**277.4**	**275.6**	**278.4**	**600.2**	**597.5**	**593.1**
Federal Government	219.6	218.3	221.8	363.6	361.7	368.2
State & Local Government	57.8	57.3	56.6	236.6	235.8	224.9
State Government	53.0	52.5	51.8	84.4	83.9	82.8
Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	152.2	151.9	142.1
Public Transportation	4.8	4.8	4.8	N/A	N/A	N/A

a/ Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. b/ Preliminary. c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions.

Data includes all full-and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

SOURCE: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

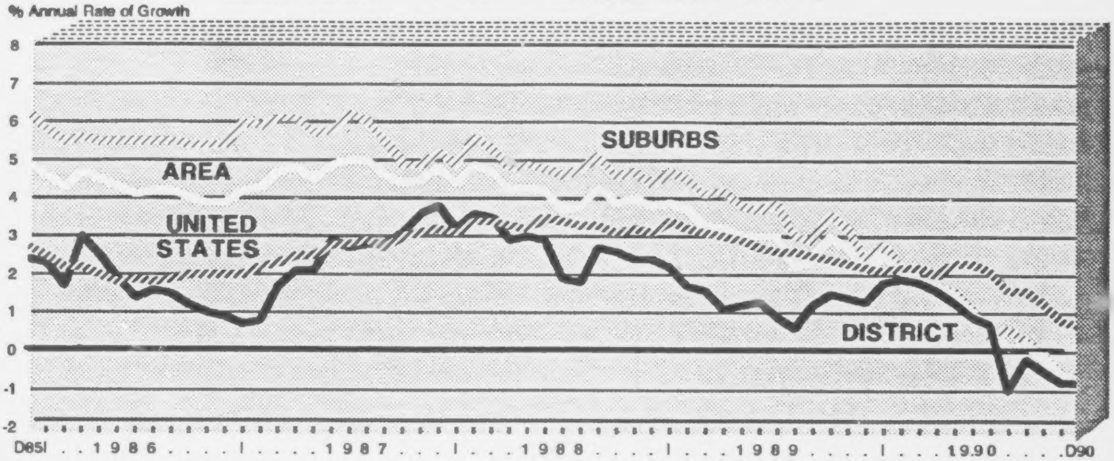
Holiday Hiring in Retail Trade

This past Fall, holiday hiring in Retail Trade was approximately half the size of hiring reported during the previous five years. In the Area last Fall, retail employers only added 10,800 additional workers, an increase of 3.0 percent. From 1985 through 1989, the Area's yearly increase for the holiday season was 6.0 percent or better. In the District, the increase was even smaller reflecting both less seasonal hiring and the closing of Garfinckel's Specialty Store. Thus, part of the recent decline in total Area employment is traceable to the loss of temporary seasonal retail jobs.

Holiday Hiring in Retail Trade
The Area, The District & The Suburbs
1985-1990
(Employment in thousands)

Area:	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
September	310.0	330.1	340.8	351.1	356.3	362.1
December	333.1	350.9	362.7	372.1	378.1	372.9*
Change	23.1	20.8	21.9	21.0	21.8	10.8
Percent	7.5	6.3	6.4	6.0	6.1	3.0
District:	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
September	53.0	54.6	53.7	54.2	54.5	53.0
December	54.4	56.5	57.5	57.9	58.2	54.3*
Change	1.4	1.9	3.8	3.7	3.7	1.3
Percent	2.6	3.5	7.1	6.8	6.8	2.5
Suburbs:	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
September	257.0	275.5	287.1	296.9	301.8	309.1
December	278.7	294.4	305.2	314.2	319.9	318.6*
Change	21.7	18.9	18.1	17.3	18.1	9.5*
Percent	8.4	6.9	6.3	5.8	6.0	3.1

*Preliminary
SOURCE: D.C. Department of Employment Services, Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work.



Monthly Over-The-Year Rate of Job Growth
December 1985 - December 1991

Area Job Growth Rates

Over the past five years (December 1985 to December 1990), the Washington Area has created new jobs at a rate of 3.4 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has declined from a peak of 5.0 percent in August 1987 to a net loss of seven-tenths of a percent in December 1990. **This was the third consecutive month that the Washington Area recorded an over-the-year job loss.** This year's over-the-year loss was down from a 2.1 percent increase reported in December 1989.

For the second consecutive month, the suburban economy also recorded an over-the-year job loss. The December loss represented a decline of 0.6 percent from a year earlier. This suburban loss was down significantly from the yearly growth of 2.4 percent reported in December 1989. In the District, the number of jobs declined over the year by eight-tenths of a percentage point. The loss of District jobs this year compares to a growth of 1.3 percent a year ago.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from a peak gain during the past five years of 101,300 new jobs created between August 1986 and August 1987, to a loss of 15,000 jobs between December 1989 and this past December. Over the past year, 9,700 jobs were lost by the Suburban economy, while the District lost 5,300 jobs. **The U.S. economy in December produced a small number of new jobs compared to the net job losses in the Washington Area (a 0.7 percent increase in the U.S. economy vs. the local loss of 0.7 percent).** November marked the eleventh consecutive month in which the rate of local job creation was below the rate for all of the United States. While the Washington Area recorded over-the-year job losses in December, the losses were about the same magnitude as in November. Perhaps, the rate of local job loss has begun to stabilize or at least slow.

NOTE: It should be recognized that the monthly estimates of jobs are subject to annual benchmark revisions. These revisions can be plus or minus one percent or more, a range well within the current measurements of change.

Profile of Job Growth Rates
December 1985 to December 1990

Average 60 months	3.4%
High, August 1987	5.0%
Low, December 1990	-0.7%
1-year ago	2.1%
Last month	-0.6%
Current month	-0.7%
The Suburbs	
Average 60 months	4.3%
High, December 1985	6.2%
Low, December 1990	-0.6%
1-year ago	2.4%
Last month	-0.6%
Current month	-0.6%
The District	
Average 60 months	1.8%
High, December 1987	3.8%
Low, August 1990	-1.0%
1-year ago	1.3%
Last month	-0.8%
Current month	-0.8%

Note: Data reflects benchmark revisions for 1988-1989.

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Department of Employment Services

Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Areas

In November 1990, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 269 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The Washington Area's November jobless rate was up 0.4 percentage point to 3.8 percent. This was the thirty-ninth lowest jobless rate of the 269 areas reporting. At the same time, the rate was up ten notches from October. A year ago, the Washington Area rate was 2.4 percent.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 3.8 percent was the eighth lowest of all the major metropolitan areas. This compares to the second lowest recorded in October. It is evident that the Washington Area jobless rate is on the upswing and is climbing more rapidly than other major metropolitan areas.

The Baltimore Area, only 35 miles north of Washington, reported a 1.9 percentage points jump in their jobless rate, up from 3.7 percent in October to 5.6 percent in November. A year ago, the Baltimore rate was 3.6 percent, up 2.0 percentage points over the year.

The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, recorded a 0.3 percentage point increase in its November jobless rate, up from 3.7 percent to 4.0 percent. A year ago, the rate was 3.5 percent.

In addition to the Washington, D.C. Area, jobless rates between 3.0 percent and 3.9 percent were reported in 9 other large metropolitan areas, the lowest being recorded in Milwaukee 3.0 percent. This was followed by Minneapolis-St. Paul—3.3 percent and Seattle, Cincinnati and Salt Lake City each 3.6 percent. San Francisco dropped from the lowest position to the six position with a rate of 3.7 percent, same as Indianapolis.

There were 11 large metropolitan areas with rates between 4.0 and 4.9 percent. There were 17 large metropolitan areas with rates between 5.0 and 5.9 percent, and 4 large metropolitan areas with rates between 6.0 and 6.9 percent. Detroit, at 7.1 percent, was the only major metropolitan area with a November rate above 7 percent.

Of the 269 metropolitan areas for which November data are available, 68 had over-the-year increases of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rate, while 20 had decreases of that magnitude. A total of 51 areas had November 1990 rates of 7 percent or higher, while an equal number had rates below 4 percent.

Unemployment Rates in Selected Statistical Areas

	November	
MSA	**1990***	**1989**
1. Milwaukee, WI	3.0	3.4
2. Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	3.3	3.1
3. Seattle, WA	3.6	4.1
4. Cincinnati, OH	3.6	4.6
5. Salt Lake City, UT	3.6	3.6
6. San Francisco, CA	3.7	2.8
7. Indianapolis, IN	3.7	3.9
8. Washington, D.C.	**3.8**	**2.4**
9. Denver, CO	3.9	4.5
10. Columbus, OH	3.9	5.2
11. Richmond-Petersburg, VA	4.0	3.5
12. Nashville, TN	4.0	3.7
13. Portland, OR	4.1	4.2
14. Phoenix, AR	4.2	3.6
15. Buffalo, NY	4.3	5.0
16. Cleveland, OH	4.4	5.3
17. Oakland, CA	4.6	3.5
18. Louisville, KY	4.6	4.9
19. Gary, IN	4.8	5.6
20. Memphis, TN	4.9	4.5
21. Kansas City, MO	4.9	4.5
22. Pittsburgh, PA	5.1	4.8
23. Dayton, OH	5.1	5.6
24. Philadelphia, PA	5.1	4.1
25. Birmingham, AL	5.1	5.2
26. Jackson, MS	5.2	4.8
27. Newark, NJ	5.3	4.8
28. Atlanta, GA	5.3	5.4
29. San Diego, CA	5.4	3.5
30. New Orleans, LA	5.4	6.2
31. Boston, MA	5.5	3.4
32. Baltimore, MD	5.6	3.6
33. Houston, TX	5.7	5.9
34. Chicago, IL	5.7	5.9
35. Sacramento, CA	5.8	4.2
36. Dallas, TX	5.8	5.6
37. Los Angeles, CA	5.8	5.2
38. Oklahoma City, OK	5.9	4.0
39. Montgomery, AL	6.0	5.8
40. St. Louis, MO	6.2	5.6
41. New York, NY	6.7	5.9
42. Miami, FL	6.8	6.4
43. Detroit, MI	7.1	6.4

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

Cities

In comparison with the 25 selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with a November preliminary rate of 6.9 percent) had the fourteenth lowest jobless rate. This was two notches below the October position when it was twelfth. In November, the average unemployment rate of the 26 cities was 6.7 percent down from the 7.0 percent reported in October, but up from the 6.6 percent posted in November 1989.

Only seven cities reported jobless rates at or below 6 percent, with the lowest posted in Salt Lake City at 3.6 percent, followed by Columbus and Milwaukee each at 4.0 percent. San Francisco's rate was at 4.3 percent in November.

Baltimore's rate at 8.2 percent was up 0.7 percentage point from October. Baltimore held the twenty-first position among the 26 selected cities. Baltimore's November 1990 rate was 2.4 percentage points higher than the November 1989 rate of 5.8 percent.

For the time being, Gary seems to have fallen out of the double digit column. This is the third consecutive month that Gary was not a double digiter. Gary's November jobless rate at 8.3 was 1.2 percentage points lower than October and 1.4 percentage points lower than November a year ago.

This was the third consecutive month that Newark was in the double digit column. Newark held the twenty-fifth position, same as in October. The November rate at 10 percentage was 0.9 percentage point lower than in October and 0.5 percentage point higher than the 9.5 percent recorded in November 1989.

Detroit's jobless rate fell 0.3 percentage point over the month to 10.7 percent, the highest among the twenty-six selected cities. The 10.7 percent is 0.8 percent higher than the 9.9 percent recorded a year ago.

Of the 26 selected central cities, thirteen reported decreases in joblessness and twelve reported increases in joblessness over the year. The largest decreases were reported in Ohio, the cities of Cincinnati and Columbus, down by 1.6 and 1.5 percentage points, respectively. New Orleans and Cleveland each reported declines in joblessness of 1.4 percentage points. The largest increase in joblessness was reported by our neighbor Baltimore, 2.4 percentage points. **The District of Columbia and Boston followed each with 2.2 percentage points increases.** The jobless rate in Pittsburgh was unchanged over the year at 4.5 percent.

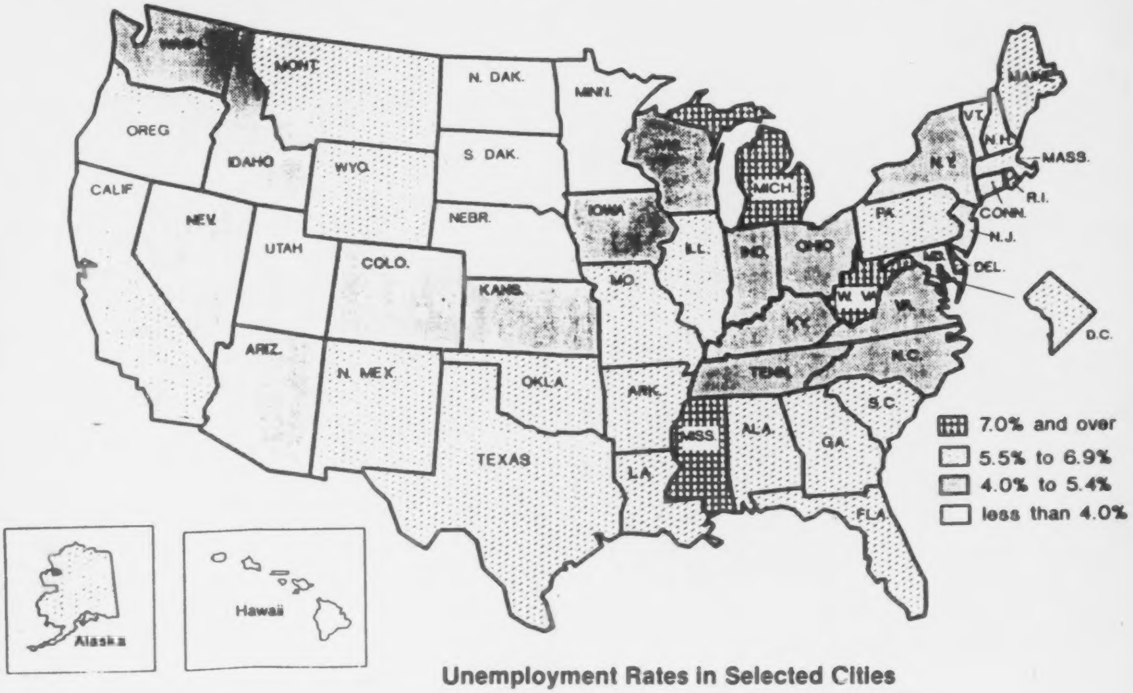
States

When the District of Columbia (with a November preliminary unemployment rate of 6.9 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the fourth highest jobless rate in the Country. This was the same position held in November. Virginia's rate at 4.5 percent was up 0.3 percentage point from October. Maryland's rate at 5.3 percent was up 0.8 percentage point after remaining unchanged during October and September. Virginia and Maryland have two of the twenty-one lowest jobless rates among the 51 jurisdictions. This month, Maryland and Virginia ranked thirty-first and forty-first, respectively, in the standings. A year ago, Maryland's rate was 3.2 percent, while Virginia's rate was 4.2 percent last year.

Eleven states and the District of Columbia reported November 1989-90 increases in their unemployment rate of 1 percentage point or more. These large increases were concentrated in the New England and neighboring Atlantic Coast states. Delaware reported the largest jump (3.4 points) followed by New Hampshire (2.9 points), Massachusetts (2.6 points) and Vermont (2.4 points). Only two states reported an unemployment rate decline of 1 percentage point or more, Nebraska (1.2 points) and North Dakota (1.0 point).

Unemployment rates in November were 7 percent or higher in three states—West Virginia (8.7 percent), Mississippi (7.4 percent) and Michigan (7.2 percent). Six states had unemployment rates below 4 percent. Nebraska (1.6 percent), Hawaii (2.7 percent), North Dakota (3.2 percent), and South Dakota (3.4 percent) had the lowest rates.

Unemployment rates by state, November 1990


WASH.
MONT.
N. DAK.
MINN.
OREG.
IDAHO
WYO.
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WIS.
MICH.
N.Y.
VT.
N.H.
MAINE
MASS.
R.I.
CONN.
N.J.
DEL.
MD.
PA.
CALIF.
NEV.
UTAH
COLO.
NEBR.
IOWA
ILL.
IND.
OHIO
W. VA.
VA.
D.C.
KANS.
MO.
KY.
ARIZ.
N. MEX.
OKLA.
ARK.
TENN.
N.C.
S.C.
MISS.
ALA.
GA.
TEXAS
LA.
FLA.
Alaska
Hawaii
7.0% and over
5.5% to 6.9%
4.0% to 5.4%
less than 4.0%

Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities

	November 1990*	November 1989
1. Salt Lake City, UT	3.6	3.8
2. Columbus, OH	4.0	5.5
3. Milwaukee, WI	4.0	4.5
4. San Francisco, CA	4.3	3.5
5. Pittsburgh, PA	4.5	4.5
6. Cincinnati, OH	4.5	6.1
7. New Orleans, LA	5.5	6.9
8. Boston, MA	6.1	3.9
9. Buffalo, NY	6.1	7.1
10. Houston, TX	6.2	6.4
11. Los Angeles, CA	6.5	5.8
12. Dallas, TX	6.7	6.5
13. Philadelphia, PA	6.8	5.4
14. District of Columbia	**5.9**	**4.7**
15. Cleveland, OH	6.9	8.3
16. Birmingham, AL	6.9	7.1
17. Dayton, OH	7.2	8.3
18. New York, NY	7.4	6.5
19. Chicago, IL	7.4	8.0
20. Atlanta, GA	7.4	7.5
21. Baltimore, MD	8.2	5.8
22. Gary, IN	8.3	9.7
23. St. Louis, MO	8.4	8.2
24. Miami, FL	8.5	7.9
25. Newark, NJ	10.0	9.5
26. Detroit, MI	10.7	9.9

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

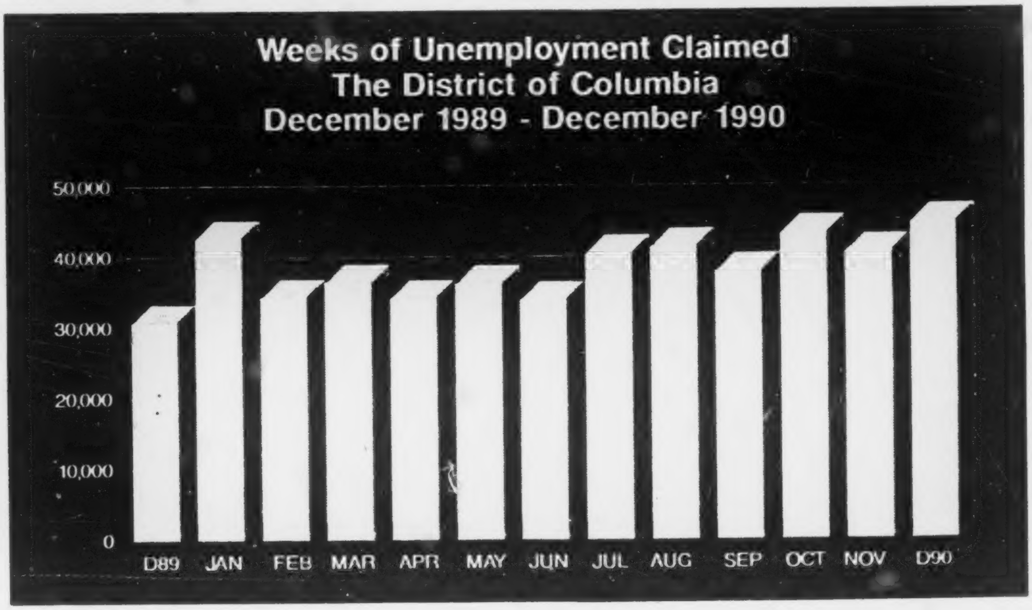
Unemployment Insurance Activities December 1990

There were 4,010 initial claims in December 1990 for unemployment compensation benefits from former workers in the District of Columbia. This was 4 percent above the previous month. It also represents the largest number of claims filed in any month of the fourth quarter, and the second largest of any month this year. The claimsload and trend are a reflection of the continued economic downturn. The monthly movement in weeks of joblessness claimed and weeks actually compensated increased 10 and 8 percent, respectively. Benefit outlay followed suit, climbing 8 percent over the month. There was virtually no change in the average weekly benefit amount. The total benefit outlay for the month was $9.4 million—the highest of any month this year.

Compared to December of last year, all measures for the total program increased. This was somewhat expected based on the status of the economy this year compared to last. The total outlay in December 1989 was $6.0 million.

The quarter-to-quarter changes between 1989 and 1990 were the largest of any of the years shown in the accompanying chart. This represents another view of the status of the economy at a point in the year. Viewed from another perspective, the 1986-1990 years show "peaks" at each end, with a trough between. Initial claims rose an average of nearly 3 percent a year between 1986 and 1990, for a total of 13.5 percent. Weeks compensated rose slightly above claims to 16 percent. Total benefit outlay rose nearly 50 percent in this period.

The annual data show the same "peak/trough" trend noted in the quarterly statistics. Intial claims were at approximately the same level in the anchor years, with 1990 being nearly one percent below 1986. Weeks compensated were down less than a half percent in the terminal year. The 1989-90 change generally eclipsed all other years as was the case in the quarterly comparisons, but the magnitude was not as great. As expected, total benefit outlay in 1990 was the highest of any year observed.



Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
December 1990

	Dec. 1990	Nov. 1990	Dec. 1989	% Change From Nov. 1990	% Change From Dec. 1989
State UI Program[a/]					
Initial Claims Taken	3,920	3,756	3,632	+4.4	+7.9
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	42,185	37,990	28,590	+11.0	+47.6
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	41,881	38,575	27,821	+8.6	+50.5
Total Benefits Paid	$8,831,327	$8,098,866	$5,469,356	+9.0	+61.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$210.87	$209.95	$196.59	+0.4	+7.3
Number of First Payments	2,330	2,123	1,710	+9.8	+36.3
Number of Final Payments	1,023	904	799	+13.2	+28.0
Total Beneficiaries	11,986	10,871	8,448	+10.3	+41.9
Federal Program[b/]					
Initial Claims Taken	51	72	51	-30.6	+0.0
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	2,091	2,100	1,827	-0.4	+14.4
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,135	2,261	1,999	-5.6	+6.8
Total Benefits Paid	$470,857	$499,568	$448,990	-5.7	+4.9
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$220.54	$220.95	$224.61	-0.2	-1.8
Number of First Payments	99	121	70	-18.2	+41.4
Number of Final Payments	50	48	51	+4.2	-2.0
Total Beneficiaries	565	557	568	+1.4	-0.5
Ex-Servicepersons Programc/					
Initial Claims Taken	35	20	24	+75.0	+45.8
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	339	349	268	-2.9	+26.5
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	279	295	231	-5.4	+20.8
Total Benefits Paid	$58,991	$62,417	$49,843	-5.5	+18.4
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$211.44	$211.58	$215.77	-0.1	-2.0
Number of First Payments	21	29	20	-27.6	+5.0
Number of Final Payments	12	17	8	-29.4	+50.0
Total Beneficiaries	82	81	67	+1.2	+22.4
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	4,006	3,848	3,707	+4.1	+8.1
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	44,615	40,439	30,685	+10.3	+45.4
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	44,295	41,131	30,051	+7.7	+47.4
Total Benefits Paid	$9,361,175	$8,660,851	$5,968,189	+8.1	+56.9
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$211.34	$210.57	$198.60	+0.4	+6.4
Number of First Payments	2,450	1,767	1,800	+38.7	+36.1
Number of Final Payments	1,085	969	858	+12.0	+26.5
Total Beneficiaries	12,633	11,509	9,083	+9.8	+39.1

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a/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

b/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation of Ex-Serviceperson (UCX).

c/ No joint claims.

Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Activities
Quarterly and Annual Summaries
District of Columbia
1986-1990

Fourth Quarter						**Percent Change**				
	1986	**1987**	**1988**	**1989**	**1990**	**1986-87**	**1987-88**	**1988-89**	**1988-90**	**1986-90**
Initial Claims	10,389	9,381	9,243	9,244	11,788	-10.0	-1.5	—	+27.5	+13.5
Weeks Compensated	111,329	91,303	91,453	92,772	129,270	-17.9	+0.2	+1.4	+39.3	-16.1
Total Benefit Outlay	$18,434,367	$16,073,007	$17,031,598	$18,483,167	$27,317,978	-12.8	+6.0	+8.5	+47.8	+48.2
Avg. Wkly. Benefits	$165.68	$176.04	$186.23	$199.23	$211.32	+6.3	+5.8	+6.9	+6.1	+27.5
Year										
Initial Claims	41,565	39,496	37,167	36,024	41,197	-7.3	-3.5	-3.1	+14.4	-0.9
Weeks Compensated	457,984	428,996	397,341	404,014	459,611	-6.3	-7.4	+1.7	+13.8	+0.4
Total Benefit Outlay	$74,135,660	$74,947,954	$73,240,057	$79,841,722	$95,410,831	+1.1	-2.3	+9.0	+19.5	+28.7
Avg. Wkly. Benefits	$161.87	$174.71	$184.33	$197.62	$207.59	+7.9	+5.5	+7.2	+5.0	+28.2

D.C. Minimum Wage For Workers Dry Cleaning Occupation Increases

On December 11, 1990, the District's Wage-Hour Board increased the minimum wage for laundry and Dry Cleaning Workers, from $3.70 per hour to $5.45 per hour, except where the employer furnishes health benefits. If the employer furnishes health benefits which cost 50 cents or more per hour the rate is $4.95 per hour. The increase became effective February 10, 1991.

The new rate will apply to workers in the Standard Industrial Classifications; (721) laundry, cleaning, and garment services, and (725) shoe repair, shoe shine parlors, and hat cleaning shops. The new rate is applicable to all employees in the occupation without regard to the primary business of the employer.

For more information and copies of the wage order call the Department's Office of Wage-Hour, (202) 576-6942.

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for December 1990 increased $1.54. Average Weekly Hours reported a slight decrease of .4 hour. Average Hourly Earnings increased 17 cents.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Other Durable Goods showed an increase in Weekly Hours of 1.1 hours due to a longer scheduled workweek.

In the Non-Durable Goods Sector, Printing and Publishing reported less overtime worked which caused Weekly Earnings to drop $5.84 and Weekly Hours to drop 1.6 hours. On the other hand, an increase in the proportion of higher paid employees caused Hourly Earnings to rise 15 cents an hour. Other Non-Durable Goods reported less overtime worked thus causing Weekly Hours to drop 1.6 hours.

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
December 1990

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec. 1990	Nov. 1990	Dec. 1989	Dec. 1990	Nov. 1990	Dec. 1989	Dec. 1990	Nov. 1990	Dec. 1989
Total Manufacturing	503.10	501.56	473.02	39.0	39.4	38.9	12.90	12.73	12.16
Durable Goods	535.86	527.09	483.75	42.8	42.1	41.1	12.52	12.52	11.77
Stone Clay & Glass Products	533.56	534.89	434.84	44.5	45.1	40.3	11.99	11.86	10.79
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	497.54	493.20	443.31	41.6	41.1	41.2	11.96	12.00	10.76
Other Durable Goods	550.41	536.71	506.76	42.9	41.8	41.2	12.83	12.84	12.30
Non-Durable Goods	476.03	481.92	463.75	35.9	37.3	37.1	13.26	12.92	12.50
Food & Kindred Products	487.72	489.20	433.88	42.3	42.8	40.1	11.53	11.43	10.82
Printing & Publishing	499.63	505.47	487.42	33.6	35.2	35.5	14.87	14.36	13.73
Other Non-Durable Goods	388.28	400.58	387.92	40.7	42.3	41.4	9.54	9.47	9.37

Total Production Workers	Dec. 1990	Nov. 1990	Dec. 1989
	38,700	38,900	41,600

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Government of the
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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.
AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR JANUARY 1991

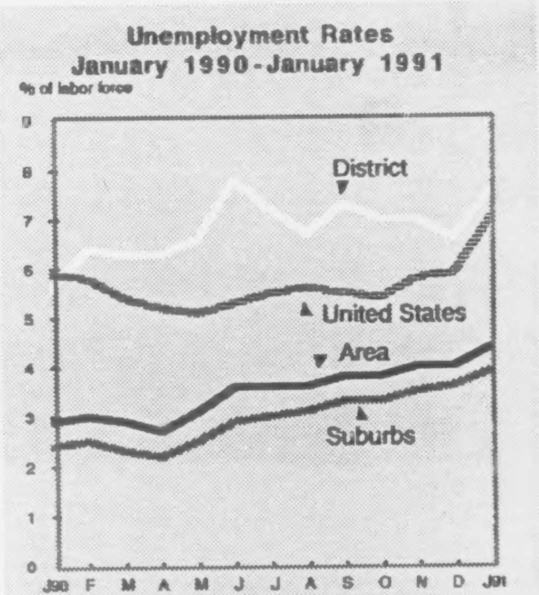
MARCH 1991

Area Unemployment Hits 4.4 Percent
Highest January Rate In 7 Years
D.C. Rate at 7.6%

Labor Force

Unemployment across the Washington Area increased again in January. The unemployment rate in the District advanced to 7.6 percent of the labor force, one percentage point above December and two percentage points above the January 1990 estimate. The rate in the Washington suburbs increased from 3.6 percent in December to 3.9 percent in January. The combined increases in the District and the suburbs pushed the Area rate to 4.4 percent. Both the suburban and Area rates were up a significant 1.6 percentage points from a year ago. This was the highest January rate in four years for the District and the highest for the Area in seven years.

The unadjusted January rate for all civilian workers in the United States was 7.0 percent. January represents the twelfth consecutive month that the District's rate has exceeded that for the nation.


Unemployment Rates
January 1990-January 1991

The District

During January there was a large decline in the number of District residents holding jobs, a modest increase in the unemployment rolls and a significant decline in the size of the labor force. The January count of employment found 9,400 fewer District residents on Area payrolls. This loss of jobs led to a 2,500-person increase in number of jobless workers and a 6,900-person decline in the labor supply. These changes caused the upward adjustment in the unemployment rate of a full percentage point.

Continued on page 3

Government of the
District of Columbia
Sharon Pratt Dixon
Mayor

JOB SERVICE

Department of
Employment Services
Maria Borrero
Acting Director

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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR JANUARY 1991 MARCH 1991

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The *Area Labor Summary* is published monthly by the D.C. Department of Employment Services, 500 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The Labor Market Information and Research Staff (Richard Groner, Chief) prepares the *Summary*. The following staff members have contributed to the publication and development of data herein: Charles Roeslin, Rufus Daniels, Eileen Dent, Nancy Anderson-Grant, Elsie Taylor, and Gwendolyn Thompson, and administrative support was provided by Robin McDonald.

Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

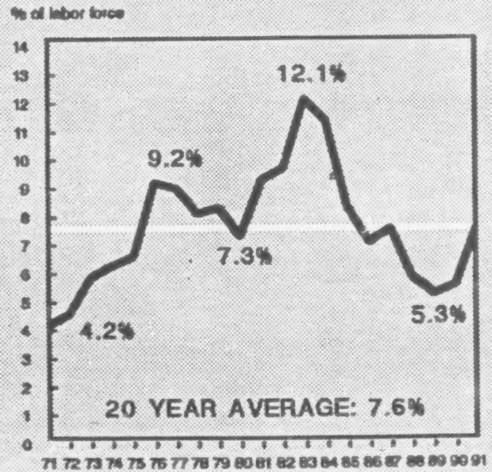
Continued from page 1

Much of January's labor transactions were probably seasonal as temporary holiday workers left jobs and either joined the ranks of the unemployed or withdrew from the labor force. Historically, the January unemployment rate in the District increased in 19 of the last 20 years. Over this 20-year period the January increase in the rate has averaged seven-tenths of a percent or slightly less than this year's increase. Thus, most of the increase appears to be seasonal, however, it may also contain a more cyclical upward component.

As has been the case for at least the past six or seven months, the over-the-year comparisons reflect the decline in local economic activity. In the District, the comparison of the measurements taken in January 1990 with those taken in January 1991 shows a very significant drop in resident jobholding which resulted in both an increase in the level of unemployment and a larger decrease in the size of the labor force. Clear signs of a recessionary economy.

In absolute terms, the number of District residents on employer payrolls fell during the past year by 20,500 (7 percent). As a result of this employment drop, jobless rolls grew by 4,900 (29 percent). The balance of the employment loss appeared as a 15,500-person (5 percent) drop in the labor supply. These relatively large changes pushed the unemployment rate up a significant two full percentage points, from a relatively low 5.6 percent in January 1990 to a recessionary 7.6 percent in January 1991. At 7.6 percent, the District is now at the same level as the 20-year average of the January unemployment rate. Thus, while District unemployment is up significantly, it is not extremely high. At 7.6 percent, the rate is significantly below the historical high for the month of 12.1 percent recorded in January 1983.

District Unemployment Rates In the Month of January 1971 - 1991



The Suburbs & The Area

The monthly labor market patterns in both the suburbs and the Area were similar to those in the District, although the increases in the unemployment rates were more modest. Like in the District, the monthly changes appeared to be primarily seasonal, but the over-the-year statistics clearly demonstrate the extent of the contraction in the local economy.

Over the past year (January 1990 to January 1991), 43,100 suburbanites lost jobs, a decline of 2.3 percent. But unlike in the District, most of the lost employment resulted in increases in the roster of jobless workers. Compared to January of last year, there are now 30,600 more unemployed suburban workers—a

Continued on page 4

Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C., MSA by City and County

	Jan.a/ 1991	Dec.b/ 1990	Jan.a/ 1990
1. Frederick County	8.5	6.7	4.7
2. Calvert County	8.1	6.1	4.6
3. District of Columbia	**7.6**	**6.6**	**5.6**
4. Stafford County	7.0	4.8	3.7
5. Manassas City	6.3	4.7	2.4
6. Charles County	5.0	4.4	2.8
7. Prince Georges Cty.	4.7	4.6	3.1
8. Prince William Cty.	4.6	3.8	2.6
9. Manassas Park City	4.5	3.8	2.1
10. Alexandria City	4.1	3.8	2.5
11. Montgomery County	3.3	3.3	2.1
12. Arlington County	3.2	2.8	2.0
13. Loudoun County	3.1	2.5	1.9
14. Fairfax County	2.7	2.5	1.8
15. Fairfax City	2.3	2.0	1.7
16. Falls Church City	2.1	2.2	1.7

a/ Preliminary. b/ Revised.

SOURCE: The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Continued from page 3

significant 70 percent increase in the suburban unemployment level. As a result, the rate of suburban unemployment expanded over the year by 1.6 percentage points and now registers 3.9 percent of the labor force. There are now two suburban counties (Frederick and Calvert) with unemployment rates higher than the District's.

For the Area, the yearly changes show a small decline in the labor force of about 1 percent, but a relatively significant employment loss of 3 percent and a 58 percent jump in the count of the unemployed. When viewed from the perspective of the Area, 55 percent of the 28,200-person decline in the labor supply occurred in the District. On the other hand, suburbanites contributed 68 percent of the 63,600 Area workers who lost jobs over the year and 86 percent of the increase in unemployment. Thus, despite the larger increase in the District's unemployment rate, the vast majority of the Area's falling employment and increasing unemployment have occurred among persons living in the suburbs. In the current economic contraction, both District residents and suburbanites are feeling the sting of higher unemploym[illegible]

Still with only 4.4 percent of the labor force unemployed, the Washington Area has a relatively low unemployment rate. This indicates that the local labor supply is still showing residual signs of the labor shortages that contributed to the slowing of economic growth in the latter part of the 1980's. Once a recovery starts, the availability of labor could again emerge as a constraint on industrial expansion.

Employment Status of the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA
January 1991a/

	Jan. b/ 1991	Dec. c/ 1990	Jan. d/ 1990	Dec. d/ 1989	Net Change from	
					Dec. 1990	Jan. 1990
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	287,700	294,600	303,200	305,500	-6,900	-15,500
Total Employed	265,800	275,200	286,300	290,000	-9,400	-20,500
Total Unemployed	21,900	19,400	17,000	15,400	2,500	4,900
Unemployment Rate e/	7.6	6.6	5.6	5.1	1.0	2.0
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,888,200	1,897,700	1,900,900	1,906,500	-9,500	-12,700
Total Employed	1,813,900	1,830,100	1,857,000	1,869,000	-16,200	-43,100
Total Unemployed	74,400	67,600	43,800	37,600	6,800	30,600
Unemployment Rate e/	3.9	3.6	2.3	2.0	0.3	1.6
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,175,900	2,192,300	2,204,100	2,212,000	-16,400	-28,200
Total Employed	2,079,700	2,105,300	2,143,300	2,159,000	-25,600	-63,600
Total Unemployed	96,300	87,000	60,800	53,000	9,300	35,500
Unemployment Rate e/	4.4	4.0	2.8	2.4	0.4	1.6

a/ Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding. b/Preliminary.
c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions. e/ Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia, the Virginia Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, and Stafford; and the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick, and Calvert.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

The number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits in the District of Columbia totaled 13,121 in January 1991. In January 1991, 56 percent of all UI claimants were males. Occupationally, professional, technical and managerial workers accounted for 25 percent of the total workers. This was followed by 23 percent each for Clerical and Sales and service workers. Structural workers accounted for 19 percent of the claimants. The remaining 10 percent was distributed between machine trades, bench work, processing and miscellaneous workers.

The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 9.1 weeks for all claimants in January. Over the month, the duration for males declined from 9.1 weeks to 8.7 weeks, while for females the duration fell from 10.0 weeks to 9.8 weeks. A year ago, the duration was 8.6 weeks for males and 9.3 weeks for females.

Labor Force Distribution Washington Metropolitan Area January 1991 & January 1990
(percent)

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
		January 1991	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.2	12.8	22.1
Suburbs	86.8	87.2	77.9
		January 1990	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.8	13.4	28.0
Suburbs	86.2	86.6	72.0

Job Growth

The District

The number of jobs in the District decreased by 9,100 for a loss of 1.3 percent between December and January. The private sector was responsible for the decline with primarily seasonal losses in Services (5,700 jobs), Trade (2,700 jobs) and Construction (400 jobs).

The public sector grew by 500 jobs with a gain in Federal Government (1,200 jobs) partially offset by a loss in State and Local Government (700 jobs).

Over the year (January 1990 to January 1991), the number of District jobs increased 0.5 percent for a gain of 3,400 jobs. **The public sector gained 1,800 jobs for an increase of 0.7 percent with growth in both State and Local Government (1,400 jobs) and Federal Government (400 jobs).**

The private sector increased at a rate of 0.4 percent for a gain of 1,600 jobs. Services, the only job gainer, accounted for all of the private sector growth with a gain of 4,700 jobs. Significant private sector losses occurred in Retail Trade (1,200 jobs), Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,000 jobs), Transportation and Public Utilities (600 jobs) and Manufacturing (400 jobs).

The Suburbs

The number of suburban jobs decreased by 2.9 percent for a loss of 45,000 jobs between December and January. The private sector was responsible for 81 percent of the decline with primarily seasonal losses in Trade (18,100 jobs), Services (7,900 jobs) and Construction (6,600 jobs). The Maryland suburbs accounted for 52 percent of the losses in Trade and Services while the Virginia suburbs were responsible for 58 percent of the loss in Construction.

The public sector decreased by 8,400 jobs with losses in both State and Local Government (7,300 jobs) and Federal Government (1,100 jobs). The Maryland suburbs accounted for three-fourths of the decline in the public sector.

Over the year (January 1990 to January 1991), suburban jobs declined at a rate of 0.7 percent for a loss of 11,200 jobs. **The Maryland suburbs grew at a rate of 0.4 percent while the Virginia suburbs decreased at a rate of 1.8 percent.**

Continued on page 6

Continued from page 5

The private sector, declining at a rate of 1.0 percent, accounted for the loss in suburban jobs with growth in the service-producing sector (6,600 jobs) offset by a decline in the goods-producing sector (19,100 jobs). Job losses were primarily concentrated in Construction (16,700 jobs), Manufacturing (2,300 jobs) and Trade (1,400 jobs) while the only job gains occured in Services (7,800 jobs) and Transportation and Public Utilities (700 jobs). Eighty-six percent of the Construction loss and all of the decline in Trade occurred in the Virginia suburbs while the Maryland suburbs accounted for 70 percent of the loss in Manufacturing. The Virginia suburbs were responsible for 71 percent of the Services growth while the Maryland suburbs accounted for the growth in Transportation and Public Utilities.

The public sector grew at a rate of 0.4 percent with growth in State and Local Government (6,300 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (5,000 jobs). Three-fourths of the State and Local Government growth as well as 68 percent of the decline in Federal Government occurred in the Virginia suburbs.

The Area

The Washington Metropolitan Area lost 54,100 jobs between December and January for a decrease of 2.4 percent. The private sector accounted for 85 percent of the loss with primarily seasonal declines in Trade (20,800 jobs), Services (13,600 jobs) and Construction (7,000 jobs).

The public sector declined by 1.3 percent with a slight gain in Federal Government (100 jobs) offset by a loss in State and Local Government (8,000 jobs).

Over the year (January 1990 to January 1991), the Area declined at a rate of 0.4 percent for a loss of 7,800 jobs. The private sector, declining at a rate of 0.7 percent for a loss of 10,900 jobs, was responsible for the Area job loss. Job losses were concentrated in Construction (16,900 jobs), Trade (2,300 jobs), Manufacturing (2,700 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,500 jobs) while job growth primarily occurred in Services (12,500 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 0.5 percent with gains in State and Local Government (7,700 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (4,600 jobs).

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work a/

(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	Jan. b/ 1991	Dec. c/ 1990	Jan. d/ 1990	Jan. b/ 1991	Dec. c/ 1990	Jan. d/ 1990
TOTAL	**680.6**	**689.7**	**677.2**	**2,199.1**	**2,253.2**	**2,206.9**
Total Private Sector	**402.9**	**412.5**	**401.3**	**1,615.0**	**1,661.2**	**1,625.9**
Total Government	**277.7**	**277.2**	**275.9**	**584.1**	**592.0**	**581.0**
Total Goods Producing	**29.5**	**30.1**	**30.1**	**205.4**	**213.4**	**225.1**
Manufacturing	**15.4**	**15.6**	**15.8**	**85.5**	**86.4**	**88.2**
Total Durables	2.3	2.2	2.4	41.5	41.7	43.0
Stone, Clay, Glass Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.9	3.0	3.4
Electronic & Electric Equip.	N/A	N/A	N/A	18.7	18.6	17.1
All Other Durable	N/A	N/A	N/A	19.9	20.1	22.5
Total Non-Durable	13.1	13.4	13.4	44.0	44.7	45.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	4.7	4.8	4.6
Printing & Publishing	12.4	12.7	12.7	33.4	33.9	34.6
All Other Non-Durable	0.4	0.4	0.4	5.9	6.0	6.0
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**1.1**	**1.2**	**1.2**
Construction	**14.0**	**14.4**	**14.2**	**118.8**	**125.8**	**135.7**
Total Service Producing	**651.1**	**659.6**	**647.1**	**1993.7**	**2039.8**	**1981.8**

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a]

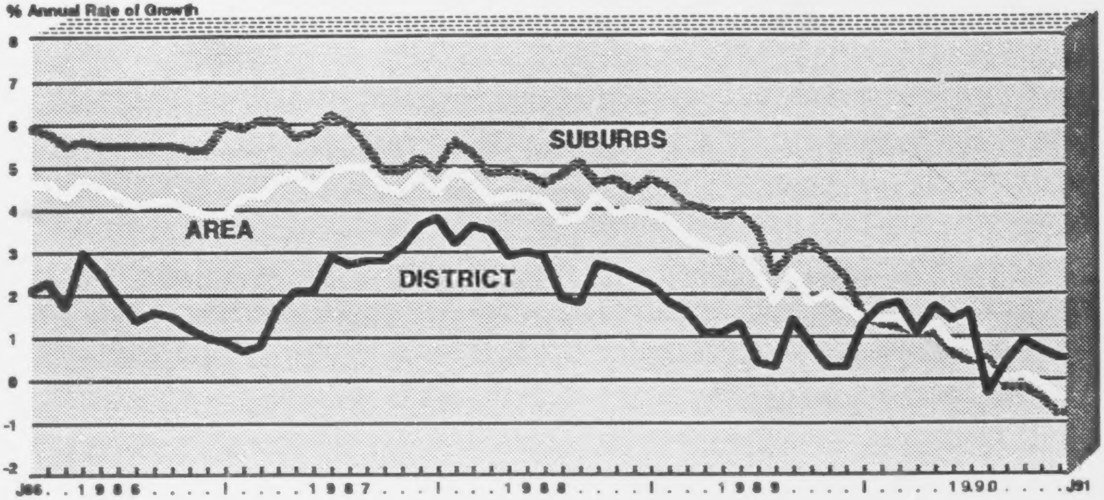
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	Jan.[b] 1991	Dec.[c] 1990	Jan.[d] 1990	Jan.[b] 1991	Dec.[c] 1990	Jan.[d] 1990
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	**23.5**	**23.7**	**24.1**	**107.3**	**109.9**	**107.2**
All Transportation	8.9	9.1	9.1	50.8	53.5	51.1
Railroads	4.2	4.2	4.1	5.3	5.3	5.2
Transportation ex. Railroad	4.7	4.9	5.0	45.5	48.2	45.9
Communications & Public Utilities	14.6	14.6	15.0	56.5	56.4	56.1
Trade	**59.4**	**62.1**	**60.3**	**426.9**	**447.7**	**429.2**
Wholesale	8.4	8.4	8.1	78.7	79.4	77.7
Retail	51.0	53.7	52.2	348.2	368.3	351.5
General Merchandise	N/A	N/A	N/A	39.6	44.0	41.0
Food Stores	N/A	N/A	N/A	50.3	51.9	49.2
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	36.1	36.2	37.1
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	29.6	31.9	29.7
Eating & Drinking Places	26.5	27.6	26.8	111.4	116.0	112.1
All Other Retail	24.5	26.1	25.4	81.2	88.3	82.4
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**32.8**	**33.2**	**33.8**	**128.8**	**130.0**	**130.3**
Finance	15.5	15.6	16.1	59.6	59.9	60.5
Depository Institutions	8.4	8.5	9.1	39.7	39.9	40.3
Other Finance	7.1	7.1	7.0	19.9	20.0	20.2
Insurance	7.9	7.9	7.9	28.4	28.3	27.5
Real Estate	9.4	9.7	9.8	40.8	41.8	42.3
Services	**257.7**	**263.4**	**253.0**	**746.6**	**760.2**	**734.1**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	16.2	17.6	15.7	36.8	38.3	35.7
Personal Services	3.5	3.3	3.5	22.5	22.4	23.1
Business Services	38.1	39.2	37.9	180.1	183.4	177.2
Service to Buildings	13.1	14.0	13.7	N/A	N/A	N/A
Personnel Supply	7.9	8.1	8.3	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	5.9	5.8	5.4	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Business Services	11.2	11.3	10.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	37.8	38.0	37.7	118.8	119.4	115.2
Legal Services	30.2	30.8	29.4	40.6	41.3	39.8
Educational Services	31.3	32.6	30.9	45.0	46.5	43.8
Social Services	12.9	13.0	12.4	36.5	37.0	34.5
Membership Organizations	34.5	34.7	33.3	62.5	62.7	60.3
Engineering/Management Ser.	43.4	43.8	42.5	144.5	146.6	145.8
All Other Services	9.8	10.4	9.7	59.3	62.6	58.7
Government	**277.7**	**277.2**	**275.9**	**584.1**	**592.0**	**581.0**
Federal Government	220.6	219.4	220.2	359.6	359.5	364.2
State & Local Government	57.1	57.8	55.7	224.5	232.5	216.8
State Government	52.3	53.0	50.9	78.9	81.8	76.6
Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	145.6	150.7	140.2
Public Transportation	4.8	4.8	4.8	N/A	N/A	N/A

a/ Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. b/ Preliminary.
c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions.
Data includes all full-and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

SOURCE: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Monthly Over-The-Year Rate of Job Growth
January 1986 - January 1991



Area Job Growth Rates

Over the past five years (January 1986 to January 1991), the Washington Area has created new jobs at a rate of 3.2 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has declined from a peak of 5.0 percent in August 1987 to a net loss of four-tenths of a percent in January 1991. **This marked the third consecutive month that the Washington Area recorded an over-the-year job loss.** This January's measurement was down from a 1.4 percent increase reported in January of 1990.

For the fifth consecutive month, the suburban economy recorded an over-the-year job loss. The January loss represented a job decline of 0.7 percent from a year earlier. This suburban loss was down from the yearly growth of 1.5 percent reported in January 1990. In the District, the number of jobs increased over the year by five-tenths of a percentage point. The gain of District jobs this year compares to a growth of 1.3 percent reported a year ago.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from a peak gain during the past five years of 101,300 new jobs created between August 1986 and August 1987, to a loss of 7,800 jobs between January 1990 and this past January. Over the past year, 11,200 jobs were lost by the Suburban economy, while the District gained 3,400 jobs.

The U.S. economy in January produced a small number of new jobs over the year compared to the small net losses in the Washington Area (a 0.4 percent increase for the U.S. economy vs. the 0.4 percent loss for the Washington Area). January marked the fourteenth consecutive month in which the rate of local job creation was below the rate for all of the United States.

While the Washington Area recorded over-the-year job losses in January, the rate of loss was the same as in December. This plateauing could mean that the current decline has reached the bottom of the cycle. Early recovery will depend on the strength of the traditional local employment expansion which occurs in the spring. Area governments which have been one of the region's growth industries still have not implemented their much discussed spending and job retrenchment plans. The implementation of these plans could be a negative factor in any rapid recovery.

NOTE: The job estimates appearing in this edition of the **Area Labor Summary** have been prepared based on re-benchmarked estimates of Wage and Salary Employment for 1989 and 1990.

Profile of Job Growth Rates
January 1986 to January 1991

The Area	
Average 60 months	3.2%
High, August 1987	5.0%
Low, January 1991	-0.4%
1-year ago	1.4%
Last month	-0.4%
Current month	-0.4%
The Suburbs	
Average 60 months	3.9%
High, July 1987	6.2%
Low, December 1990	-0.8%
1-year ago	1.5%
Last month	-0.8%
Current month	-0.7%
The District	
Average 60 months	1.8%
High, December 1987	3.8%
Low, August 1990	-0.3%
1-year ago	1.3%
Last month	0.5%
Current month	0.5%

Note: Data reflects benchmark revisions for 1989-1990.

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Industrial Profile:

Jobs in the Washington Area and the District

1990 Annual Averages and Changes During the 1980's

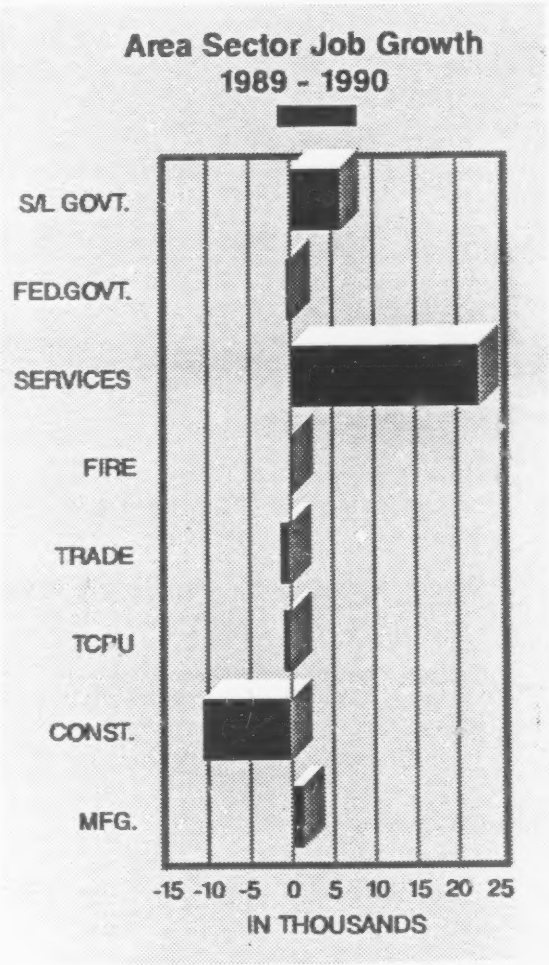
During 1990, the Washington Metropolitan Area added 14,800 new jobs to its annual average base. Of this total, the District contributed 7,300, or half of the new Area jobs. The data in this profile are from newly benchmarked annual averages for 1989 and 1990 from the statistical series "Non-Agricultural Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work" commonly referred to as the "monthly survey of establishments." This Profile examines not only the changes that occurred in the Area's and District's industrial bases between 1989 and 1990, but also the major changes which occurred during the decade of the 1980's.

Job Changes in the Area During 1990

During the latter part of 1990 the Washington Area recorded some job losses, but for the year as a whole, the Area actually added 14,800 new jobs when compared to the revised average for 1989. This 1990 growth represents only seven-tenths of a percentage point, but nevertheless, the growth enabled the total number of Area jobs to increase to 2,241,500—a new annual record. This represents the eighth consecutive year of positive Area job growth. Eight years ago, during the recessionary year of 1982, the Area lost 12,000 jobs, or about seven-tenths of its existing job base.

In 1990, only three of the seven major job sectors showed positive growth. The Services industry was the growth leader, as it has been for most of the decade. During 1990, Services added 22,600 jobs, a growth rate of 3.1 percent. Finance, Insurance and Real Estate was the only other private sector industry recording a positive growth rate. The industry's growth was small, approximately 300 new jobs or two-tenths of a percent of its 1989 base. Government added 5,600 new jobs, all at the State or Local Government level. During the year, the federal government in the Washington Area lost 400 jobs.

During 1990, the Construction industry was the largest loser of jobs, declining by 10,700. Smaller losses occurred in Manufacturing (-1,400), Trade (-1,300) and Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (-900). Thus, 1990 showed a rapid cooling off from the strong expansion of the 1980's.



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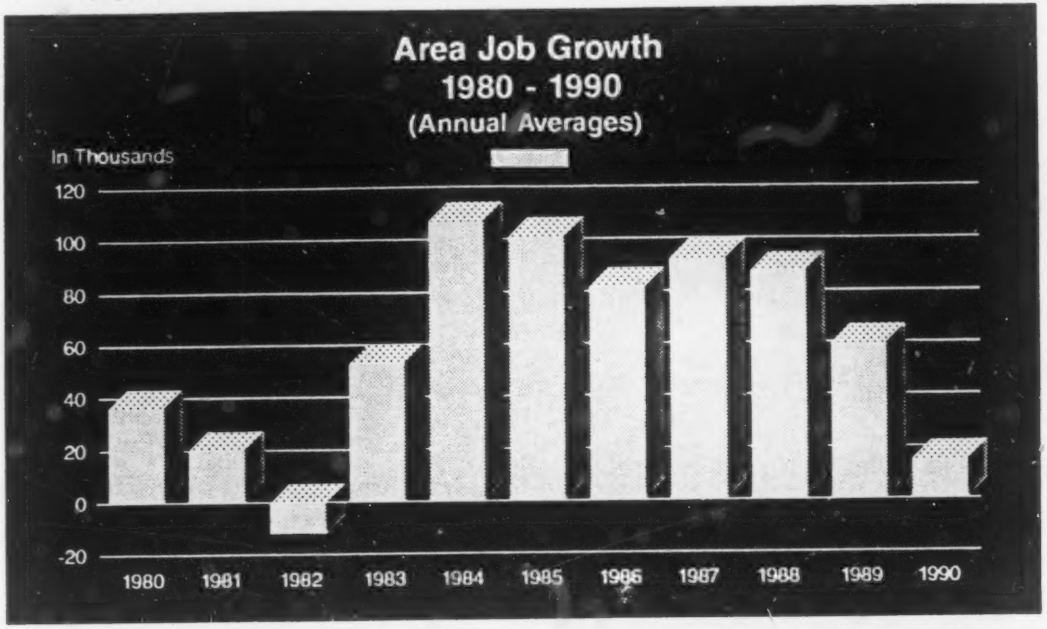

The Long View: Area Jobs in the 1980's

During the decade of the 1980's, job creation was remarkable in the Washington Area. The Area added 603,600 new jobs, a ten year expansion of nearly 37 percent. This means that one of every four jobs existing in the Washington Area was added in the last 10 years.

Ninety-eight percent of the new jobs were in the Private Sector. As a result, the proportion of private sector jobs increased from approximately 65 percent in 1980 to approximately 74 percent in 1990. Of the 14,300 new jobs in the public sector, all were at the State and Local Government level. During the past 10 years, Federal jobs in the Area declined by 6,700. As a result, Federal employment fell from 23 percent of all Area employment in 1980 to 16 percent last year.

Over half (53 percent) of the new Area jobs added during the 1980's were in the Service industry. In fact, during the 1980's, the Services industry became the largest Area employer, surpassing Government. If Retail Trade growth, which added 122,300 new jobs, is combined with Services, these two industries accounted for 73 percent of total Area growth. A substantial number of new job opportunities were also produced by the Construction industry which grew during the 1980's by 50,300 jobs, or by 47 percent. This was the second largest percentage increase after the amazing 73 percent expansion pro-

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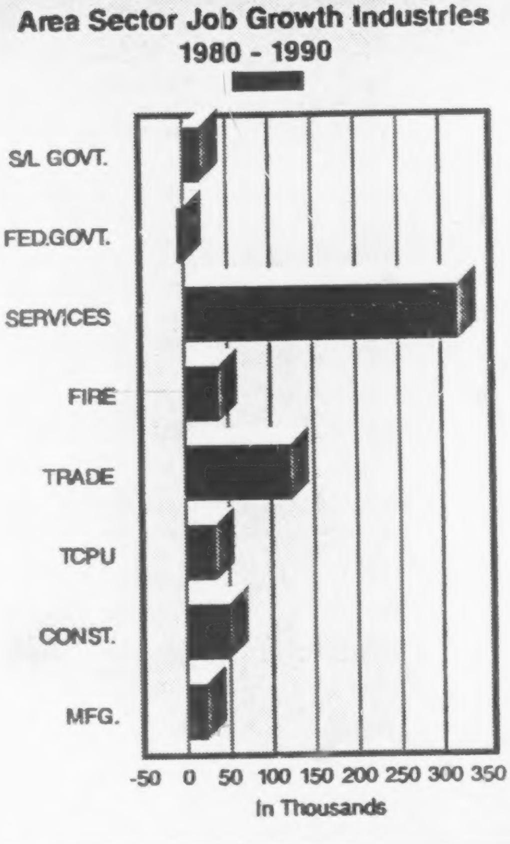

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duced by Services. Rounding out the Areas growth were significant new jobs in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (39,400 new jobs), Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (34,700 jobs) and Manufacturing (22,900 jobs).

Area Job Growth—Annual Averages 1980 Through 1990
(in thousands)

	Jobs	Change	Percent Change
1980	1,637.9	35.9	2.2
1981	1,657.[illegible]	19.9	1.2
1982	1,645.8	-12.0	-0.7
1983	1,698.6	52.8	3.2
1984	1,805.4	106.8	6.3
1985	1,906.3	100.9	5.6
1986	1,987.9	81.6	4.3
1987	2,080.1	92.2	4.6
1988	2,167.2	87.1	4.2
1989	2,226.7	59.5	2.7
1990	2,241.5	14.8	0.7

Job Changes in the District in 1990

During 1990, employers in the District added 7,300 new jobs. This represents a growth rate of 1.1 percent compared with the Area's 0.7 percent growth. The District's private sector accounted for 86 percent of the 1990 expansion. Of the seven major industry divisions, three added new jobs, three lost jobs and one remained unchanged over the year.

Once again, the growth leader in the District was the Service industry which added 8,000 additional jobs to its 1989 base. Both Construction (100 new jobs) and Government (900 jobs) contributed a small number of jobs to the expansion.

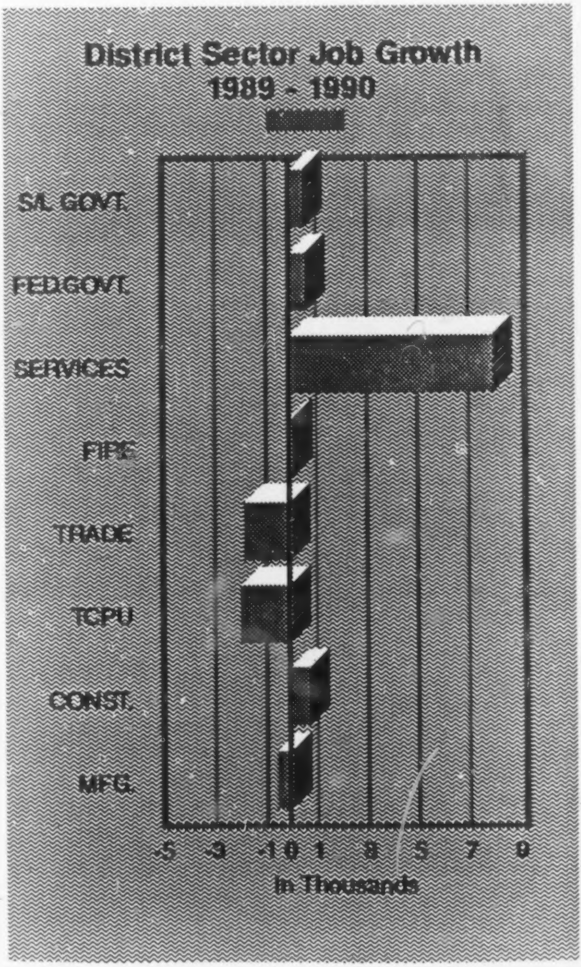
The three industries which lost jobs in 1990 were: Trade (-1,200), Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (-500) and Manufacturing (-100). All three industries were impacted by the slowing business cycle.

Surprisingly, Finance, Insurance and Real Estate's job base remained unchanged over the year, as the industry's job losses and gains equalled out.

The Long View: District Jobs in the 1980's

During the past 10 years, the District's economy gained 71,800 more jobs—an increase of nearly 12 percent. This surge in jobs raised the total number of jobs from 616,100 in 1980 to 687,900 in 1990. All of the growth occurred in the private sector, as government employment fell 4,600 jobs from its 1980 base. As a result, private sector jobs in the District increased from 54 percent of all jobs in 1980 to nearly 60 percent in 1990.

The Services industry was by all measurements the District's industrial star for the 1980's. Over the decade, this one industry added 78,800 new jobs, an increase of 43.4 percent. This growth increased the industry's share of all District jobs from approximately 30 percent in 1980 to nearly 38 percent in 1990. In fact, during the 1980's the number of Services industry jobs in the District surpassed the number of Federal



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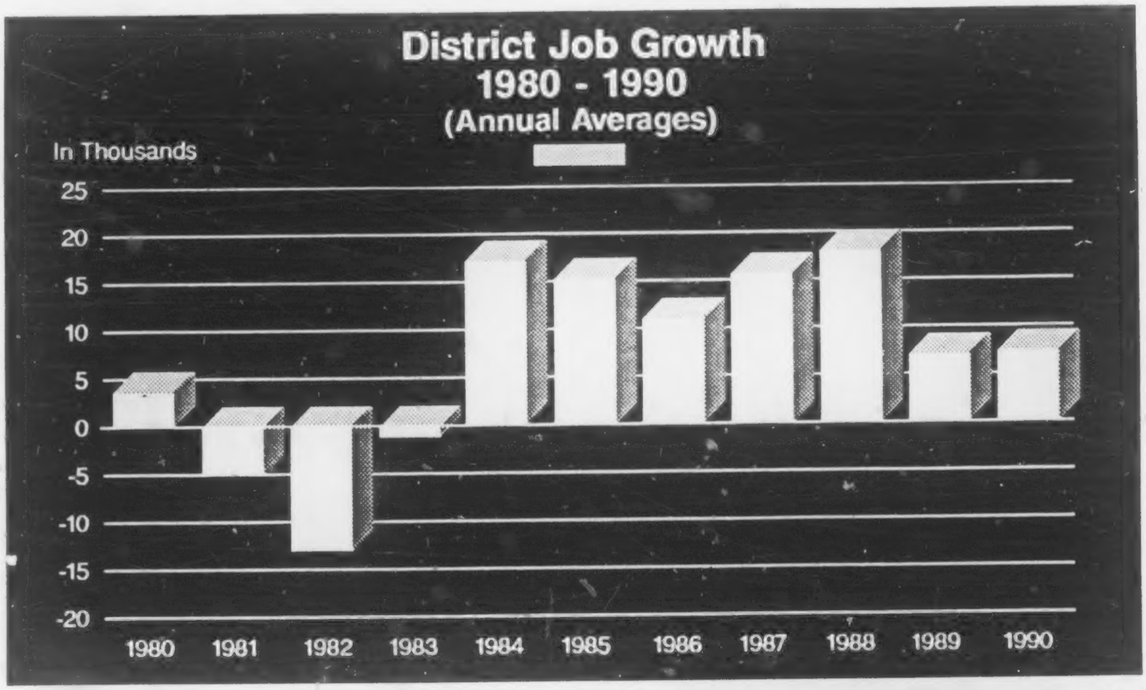
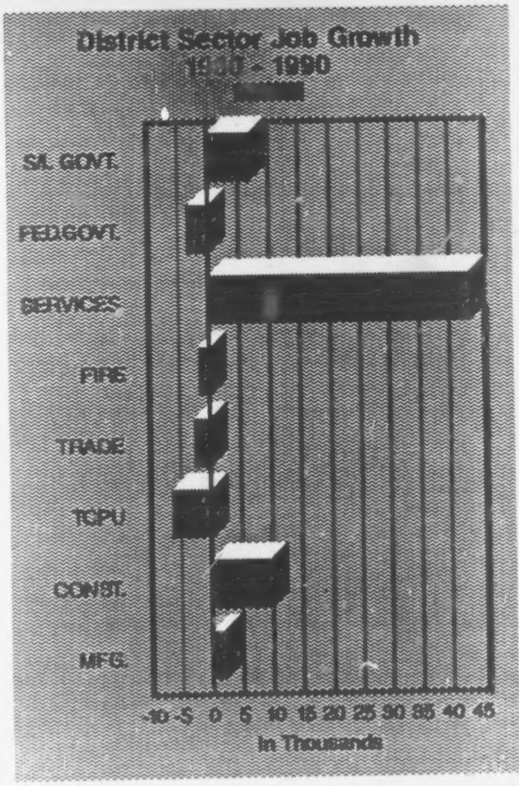


government jobs, therefore, in 1990 there were 260,300 Services jobs vs. 220,400 Federal jobs.

In addition to Services, two other major industries added jobs, while four industries lost jobs. The two growth industries were Construction which added 1,300 jobs and Manufacturing which added a marginal 300 jobs.

The District job losers were led by Government which saw 4,500 jobs disappear over the ten year period. All jobs lost were traceable to a decline in the Federal sector which lost 8,200 jobs. The Federal loss was partially offset by a 3,700 increase in State and Local Government jobs. Most of this offset, represents the 1987 transfer of Saint Elizabeth's Hospital with about 3,000 employees from Federal government to the District government.

Other job losers in the District were: Trade (-1,800 jobs), Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (-1,700 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (-700 jobs).



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District Job Growth—Annual Averages 1980 Through 1990

(in thousands)

	Jobs	Change	Percent Change
1980	616.1	3.6	0.6
1981	611.0	-5.1	-0.8
1982	597.9	-13.1	-2.1
1983	596.6	-1.3	-0.2
1984	613.8	17.2	2.9
1985	629.0	15.2	2.5
1986	640.0	11.0	1.7
1987	655.6	15.6	2.4
1988	673.6	18.0	2.7
1989	680.6	7.0	1.0
1990	687.9	7.3	1.1

Observations

The 1990 annual average job growth marked the eighth consecutive year of continued economic prosperity in the Washington Area. The growth occurred even though the job market began to show the beginning of a relatively sharp downturn in June of last year. Based on re-benchmarked estimates, three of the last four months of 1990 actually registered over-the-year job losses. Thus, the boom period of the 1980's has run its course and the Area is headed for the trough of a business cycle.

The 1980's produced some fundamental changes in the Area's industrial structure. During the decade, the remarkable growth in the Services industry moved that industry into the number one employment position in the Area, surpassing the government as the single largest employer of Area residents. In fact, the Federal government was the only major industry losing jobs over the decade. Thus, the long-term "declining" industry in the Washington Area is the Federal establishment. Despite declines in its base industry, the Area continued in the 1980's to produce new jobs at a record pace. Obviously, the Washington Area is much less dependent on the Federal government for new jobs than is generally recognized.

Clearly, some of the private sector growth during the past decade was the result of Federal purchases and, perhaps, also due to the "privatization" of some Federal activities, but much of the growth was also generated by the large population growth occurring as a result of the rapid job expansion. For example, the large increases in the Trade sector and residential Construction, as well as, in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate; Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities; Health and Educational Services; and State and Local Government were probably not directly driven by the Federal presence, but by demand for additional goods and services induced by a rapidly growing population.

For the District, 1990 represented a reasonable good growth year. With an annual job creation rate of 1.1 percent last year, it nearly matched its 1.7 yearly average for all of the 1980's. Again, it was the Services industry growth that generated these new 1990 jobs, just as this industry did throughout all of the 1980's. For the District, the 1980's represent the best decade of job growth in the District since at least the 1950's.

Given national projections, which indicate that the Services sector will lead U.S. job growth through the 1990's, it is likely that the Washington Area can generate significant new jobs again once the current business cycle runs its course. The future growth will probably not match the annual 3.7 percent growth of the 1980's, but nevertheless job growth could be significant. Growth will, however, depend on the Area's ability to produce needed public improvements to the transportation infrastructure, moderately priced housing located throughout the whole Area, and most importantly a well educated and trained labor force.

NOTE: PERSONS INTERESTED IN RECEIVING REVISED MONTHLY BENCHMARKED WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS FOR 1989 AND 1990 SHOULD CALL (202) 639-1632.

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Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a]
Annual Averages: 1990-1989 & 1980
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	**1990**	**1989**	**1980**	**1990**	**1989**	**1980**
TOTAL	**687.9**	**680.6**	**616.1**	**2,241.5**	**2,226.7**	**1,637.9**
Total Private Sector	**410.1**	**403.8**	**333.9**	**1,655.3**	**1,646.1**	**1,066.0**
Total Government	**277.7**	**276.8**	**282.2**	**586.2**	**580.6**	**571.9**
Total Goods Producing	**30.3**	**30.3**	**28.7**	**225.0**	**237.1**	**151.5**
Manufacturing	**15.7**	**15.8**	**15.4**	**87.6**	**89.0**	**64.7**
Total Durable	2.2	2.3	N/A	42.4	43.7	29.5
Stone, Clay, Glass Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.3	3.4	2.9
Electronic & Electric Equip.	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.7	17.3	N/A
All Other Durable	N/A	N/A	N/A	21.4	23.0	N/A
Total Non-Durable	13.4	13.4	N/A	45.2	45.3	35.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	1.0	4.6	4.6	5.5
Printing & Publishing	12.7	12.7	12.2	34.6	34.7	24.0
All Other Non-Durable	0.4	0.4	N/A	6.0	5.9	5.7
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**1.2**	**1.2**	**0.9**
Construction	**14.5**	**14.4**	**13.2**	**136.2**	**146.9**	**85.9**
Total Service Producing	**657.6**	**650.3**	**587.4**	**2,016.5**	**1,989.6**	**1,486.5**
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	**24.0**	**24.5**	**25.7**	**108.0**	**108.9**	**73.3**
All Transportation	9.3	9.6	8.4	51.6	53.5	35.7
Railroads	4.2	4.1	3.8	5.3	5.2	5.3
Transportation ex. Railroad	5.1	5.5	4.6	49.3	48.3	30.4
Communications & Public Utilities	14.8	14.9	17.3	56.4	55.5	37.6
Trade	**61.8**	**63.0**	**63.6**	**434.8**	**436.1**	**312.5**
Wholesale	8.4	8.4	11.8	78.8	78.3	56.9
Retail	53.4	54.6	51.8	356.0	357.9	255.6
General Merchandise	N/A	N/A	N/A	39.4	40.2	39.8
Food Stores	N/A	N/A	N/A	50.2	49.3	32.7
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	37.3	38.6	28.5
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	29.2	28.5	18.1
Eating & Drinking Places	28.0	27.8	22.7	116.9	116.7	76.9
All Other Retail	25.4	27.4	N/A	83.1	84.7	58.4
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**33.7**	**33.7**	**34.4**	**131.0**	**130.7**	**91.6**
Finance	16.0	16.0	N/A	60.4	59.5	N/A
Depository Institutions	8.9	9.2	N/A	40.3	39.0	N/A
Other Finance	7.1	6.9	N/A	20.1	20.5	N/A
Insurance	7.9	7.7	N/A	28.0	26.9	N/A
Real Estate	9.8	10.0	N/A	42.7	43.6	N/A

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Continued from page 15

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a]
Annual Averages: 1990-1989 & 1980
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	**1990**	**1989**	**1980**	**1990**	**1989**	**1980**
Services	**260.3**	**252.3**	**181.5**	**756.5**	**733.9**	**437.2**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	17.2	16.5	10.4	38.1	36.5	21.3
Personal Services	3.4	3.5	4.0	22.8	22.8	17.8
Business Services	39.5	39.0	N/A	182.6	178.4	N/A
Services to Buildings	14.2	14.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Personnel Supply	8.4	8.4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	5.7	5.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Business Services	11.3	10.3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	38.0	36.6	26.1	117.1	112.3	N/A
Legal Services	30.2	28.9	16.1	40.7	39.3	N/A
Educational Services	31.0	30.3	26.3	44.2	43.1	N/A
Social Services	12.8	12.0	N/A	35.7	33.1	N/A
Membership Organizations	34.1	33.1	29.1	62.0	59.8	N/A
Engineering/Membership Ser.	43.9	42.5	N/A	147.9	146.0	N/A
All Other Services	10.2	9.9	N/A	65.0	62.7	N/A
Government	**277.7**	**276.8**	**282.2**	**586.2**	**580.6**	**571.9**
Federal Government	220.4	219.8	228.6	363.7	364.1	370.4
State & Local Government	57.4	56.9	53.7	222.5	216.5	201.5
State Government	52.6	52.1	N/A	79.6	79.7	N/A
Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	142.9	136.9	N/A
Public Transportation	4.8	4.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

a/ Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding.

Data includes all full-and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

SOURCE: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Areas

In December 1990, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 269 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The Washington Area's December jobless rate was up 0.2 percentage point to 4.0 percent. This was the forty-second lowest jobless rate of the 269 areas reporting. A year ago, the Washington Area rate was 2.4 percent.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 4.0 percent was the sixth lowest of all the major metropolitan areas. This compares to the eighth lowest in November and the second lowest recorded in October. It is evident that the Washington Area jobless rate is on the upswing and is climbing more rapidly than many other major metropolitan areas.

The Baltimore Area, only 35 miles north of Washington, reported a 1.2 percentage points jump in their jobless rate, up from 5.6 percent in November to 6.8 percent in December. A year ago, the Baltimore rate was 3.3 percent, up a significant 3.5 percentage points over the year. This makes Baltimore the area with the second highest rate among the 43 selected areas tracked in the Area Labor Summary.

The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, recorded a 0.3 percentage point increase in its December jobless rate, up from 4.0 percent to 4.3 percent. A year ago, the rate was 3.7 percent.

Jobless rates between 3.0 percent and 3.9 percent were reported in 5 other large metropolitan areas, the lowest being recorded in Salt Lake City 3.5 percent. This was followed by Milwaukee, the rate rising from 3.0 percent to 3.6 percent. San Francisco's rate was unchanged over the month at 3.7 percent.

There were 15 large metropolitan areas including the Washington, D.C. Area with rates between 4.0 and 4.9 percent. There were 16 large metropolitan areas with rates between 5.0 and 5.9 percent, and 6 large metropolitan areas with rates between 6.0 and 6.9 percent. Detroit, at 7.1 percent, unchanged from November, was the only major metropolitan area with a December rate above 7 percent.

Of the 269 metropolitan areas for which December data are available, 86 had over-the-year increases of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rate, while 11 had decreases of that magnitude. A total of 49 areas had December 1990 rates 7 percent or higher, while 40 had rates below 4 percent.

Continued on page 18

Unemployment Rates in Selected Statistical Areas

MSA	December 1990*	December 1989
1. Salt Lake City, UT	3.5	3.5
2. Milwaukee, WI	3.6	3.8
3. San Francisco, CA	3.7	2.8
4. Cincinnati, OH	3.8	4.7
5. Seattle, WA	3.9	4.2
6. Washington, D.C.	**4.0**	**2.4**
7. Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	4.1	3.0
8. Nashville, TN	4.2	3.4
9. Richmond-Petersburg, VA	4.3	3.7
10. Portland, OR	4.3	4.0
11. Denver, CO	4.3	5.1
12. Columbus, OH	4.3	5.4
13. Phoenix, AR	4.4	3.4
14. Indianapolis, IN	4.4	4.7
15. Oakland, CA	4.6	3.4
16. Cleveland, OH	4.7	5.3
17. Philadelphia, PA	4.8	3.8
18. Pittsburgh, PA	4.8	4.7
19. Kansas City, MO	4.8	4.9
20. Louisville, KY	4.8	4.9
21. Gary, IN	5.0	5.6
22. Memphis, TN	5.0	4.1
23. Birmingham, AL	5.0	5.3
24. Dayton, OH	5.2	5.7
25. Buffalo, NY	5.3	5.3
26. San Diego, CA	5.4	3.5
27. Jackson, MS	5.4	4.4
28. Dallas, TX	5.4	4.6
29. Houston, TX	5.4	4.8
30. New Orleans, LA	5.4	5.7
31. Montgomery, AL	5.5	5.5
32. Chicago, IL	5.6	5.5
33. Newark, NJ	5.7	3.4
34. Boston, MA	5.8	3.5
35. Atlanta, GA	5.8	4.5
36. New York, NY	5.9	6.4
37. St. Louis, MO	6.0	5.5
38. Miami, FL	6.0	6.5
39. Sacramento, CA	6.2	4.2
40. Oklahoma City, OK	6.2	4.5
41. Los Angeles, CA	6.2	5.0
42. Baltimore, MD	6.8	3.3
43. Detroit, MI	7.1	6.9

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

Continued from page 17

Cities

In comparison with the 25 selected central cities, the Disrtrict of Columbia (with a December preliminary rate of 6.5 percent) held the thirteenth position. This was one notch below the November position when it was fourteenth. In December, the average unemployment rate of the 26 cities was 6.7 percent, same as November. The December jobless rate was up 0.4 percentage point from the 6.3 percent posted in December 1989.

Only eight cities reported jobless rates at or below 6 percent, with the lowest posted in Salt Lake City at 3.5 percent, followed by Pittsburgh at 4.0 percent. San Francisco and Columbus each reported rates of 4.3 percent in December.

Baltimore's rate at 9.8 percent was up substantially over the month. Baltimore held the twenty-fourth position among the 26 selected cities. Baltimore's December 1990 rate was 4.4 percentage points higher than the December 1989 rate of 5.4 percent.

For the fourth consecutive month, Gary was not in the double digit column. Gary's December jobless rate at 8.7 was 0.4 percentage points higher than November and 0.9 percentage points lower than December a year ago.

This was the fourth consecutive month that Newark was in the double digit column. Newark held the twenty-sixth position, up from the twenty-fifth position held in November. The December rate at 10.9 percent was 0.9 percentage point higher than in November and 4.0 percentage points higher than the 6.9 percent recorded in December 1989.

Detroit's jobless rate rose 0.1 percentage point over the month to 10.8 percent, the second highest among the twenty-six selected cities. The 10.8 percent is 0.1 percent higher than the 10.7 percent recorded a year ago.

Of the 26 selected central cities, fourteen reported decreases in joblessness and eleven reported increases in joblessness over the year. The largest decrease was reported in Cincinnati down by 1.4 percentage points over the year. **For the second consecutive month, our neighbor Baltimore posted the largest over-the-year increase in joblessness of 4.4 percent. The second largest increase was recorded by Newark 4.0 percent. Boston's jobless rate was up 2.6 percent over the year, while the District of Columbia's rate was up 1.9 percent.** Buffalo's rate at 7.5 percent was unchanged over the year.

States

When the District of Columbia (with a December unemployment rate of 6.5 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the twelfth highest jobless rate in the Country. This was four notches below the position held in November.

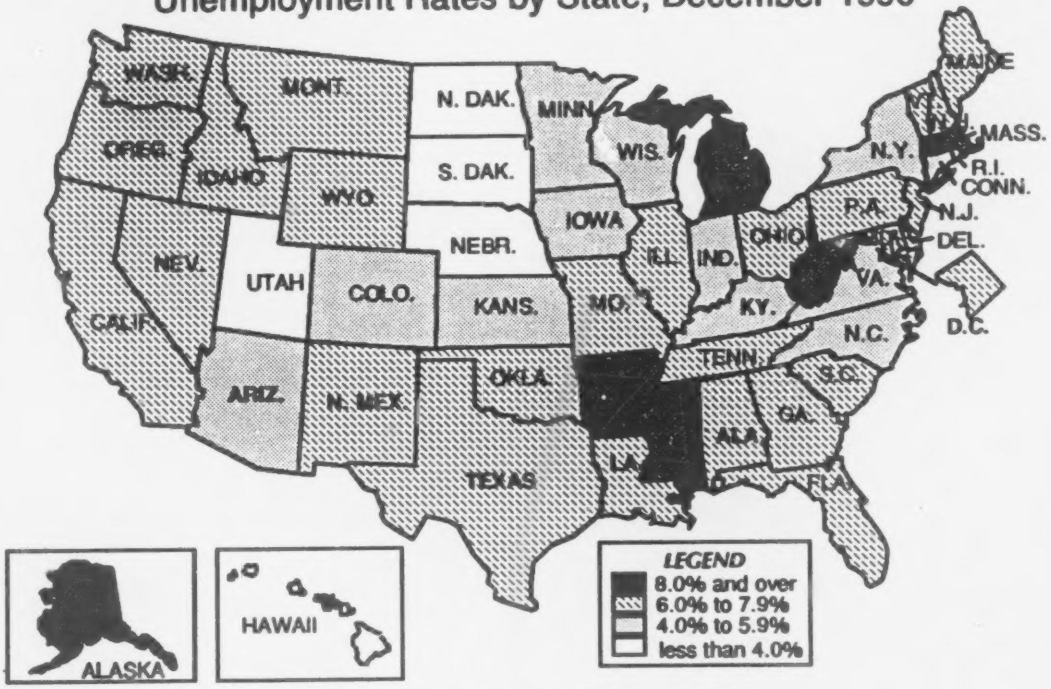
Maryland's rate at 6.0 percent was up 0.7 percentage point from November. Maryland's rate has been growing increasingly over the last year. This month, Maryland ranked twenty-third, up from its thirty-first position held in November. A year ago, Maryland's rate was 3.2 percent.

On the other hand, Virginia's rate at 4.9 percent was up 0.4 percentage point from November. Virginia has one of the eleven lowest jobless rates and ranked forty-first among the 51 jurisdictions. A year ago, Virginia's jobless rate was 4.1 percent.

Twenty-one states and the District of Columbia reported over-the-year increases of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rate. The largest of these increases—more than 2 percentage points—were concentrated in New England and nearby Atlantic Coast states. Delaware reported the largest jump (3.4 points), followed by Maryland, Massachusetts and Vermont (all 2.8 points). Colorado was the only state to show an unemployment rate decline of as much as 1 full percentage point.

Six states had December 1990 unemployment rates of 7 percent or higher, twice as many as this category a year earlier. West Virginia (9.5 percent) and Mississippi (8.0 percent) had the highest rates. Five states had rates below 4 percent—Nebraska (2.0 percent), Hawaii (2.3 percent), South Dakota (3.2 percent) and North Dakota and Utah (both 3.8 percent). A year earlier, 11 states had had jobless rates below 4 percent.

Unemployment Rates by State, December 1990


WASH.
MONT.
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IDAHO
S. DAK.
WYO.
P.A.
N.J.
IOWA
OHIO
DEL.
NEBR.
NEV.
ILL.
IND.
UTAH
COLO.
VA.
KANS.
MO.
KY.
CALIF.
D.C.
N.C.
TENN.
OKLA.
S.C.
ARIZ.
N. MEX.
GA.
ALA.
TEXAS
LA.
FLA.
ALASKA
HAWAII
LEGEND
8.0% and over
6.0% to 7.9%
4.0% to 5.9%
less than 4.0%

Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities

	December 1990*	December 1989
1. Salt Lake City, UT	3.5	3.6
2. Pittsburgh, PA	4.0	4.2
3. San Francisco, CA	4.3	3.5
4. Columbus, OH	4.3	5.2
5. Milwaukee, WI	4.6	5.0
6. Cincinnati, OH	4.7	6.1
7. New Orleans, LA	5.5	6.0
8. Houston, TX	5.9	5.2
9. Philadelphia, PA	6.1	5.2
10. Dallas, TX	6.3	5.4
11. New York, NY	6.3	7.0
12. Boston, MA	6.4	3.8
13. District of Columbia	**6.5**	**4.6**
14. Birmingham, AL	6.8	7.0
15. Los Angeles, CA	7.0	5.6
16. Chicago, IL	7.0	7.1
17. Cleveland, OH	7.4	8.1
18. Buffalo, NY	7.5	7.5
19. Miami, FL	7.5	8.0
20. Dayton, OH	7.5	8.1
21. Atlanta, GA	7.8	6.5
22. St. Louis, MO	7.9	8.2
23. Gary, IN	8.7	9.6
24. Baltimore, MD	9.8	5.4
25. Detroit, MI	10.8	10.7
26. Newark, NJ	10.9	6.9

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

Unemployment Insurance Activities—January 1991

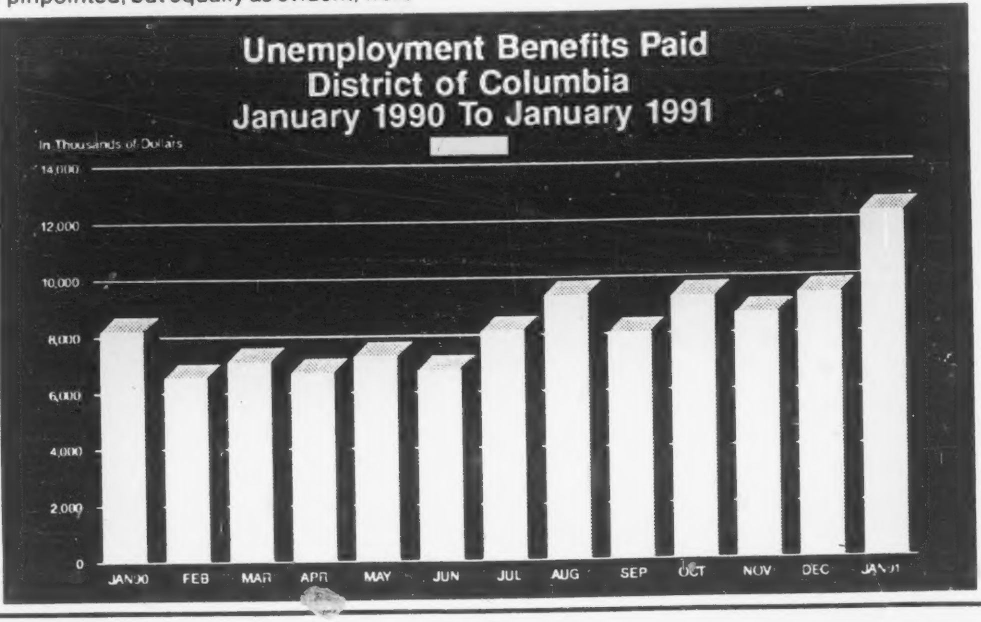
Unemployment insurance claims and associated workload measures all increased significantly from December 1990 to January 1991. The number of initial claims numbered 5,610, which is the highest monthly total since January 1983, when the economy began its rebound from the last tailspin.

The rise is attributable principally to a combination of seasonal factors and the continuing economic downturn. One seasonal factor of an operational nature is the influx of "change-of-base-period" filers. This event occurs at the beginning of each calendar quarter. The beginning of a quarter marks the change of the annual base period in which wages were earned and upon which the monetary amount of a claim is determined. (The base year period for claimants filing between January 1 and March 31, 1991 is October 1989 through September 1990). There were many claimants who were eligible for benefits prior to January 1st but who opted to wait until after January 1st to file because they had higher wages in the new base period than in the prior base period. Therefore, they were eligible for higher benefits.

Other seasonal factors were evident from the number of filers from the hotel and construction industries, where seasonal conditions are such that some workers are not needed for short periods of time. January is also the biannual period when changes occur in the U.S. Congress. When members of Congress are not re-elected, their staffs are laid off. Not as easily pinpointed, but equally as evident, were the claimants from all industries which have been affected by the economic slowdown. Claims were 36 percent above last January, and in January of last year, claimloads were unusually high because of extreme cold weather. It is this change that gives the clearest indication of the significant difference in the economy this year compared to a year ago.

The same kind of relative change in workload also is evident in both the weeks of idleness claimed and compensated—33 and 40 percent, respectively, over this same month last year. The largest annual change was in the total benefits paid, up nearly 50 percent. The monthly benefit outlay this January climbed to $12.2 million—up from the $8.2 million paid in January 1990. There was also some slight increase (+$13.00) in the average weekly benefit payment, but the vast majority of the rise in the total outlay was occasioned by the increase in the number (+16,300) of compensated weeks.

Also of note is the fact that normally in January, there is an increase in the total outlay because of legislated changes in the maximum weekly benefit amount. This increase did not occur this January. The law also allows for a "capping" of benefits, or the payment of an increase that is less than determined by the average weekly wage, if such action benefits the status of the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund. This year, the maximum benefit payable—$293 per week—remained "capped" at the 1990 level.



Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
January 1991

	Jan. 1991	Dec. 1990	Jan. 1990	% Change From Dec. 1990	% Change From Jan. 1990
State UI Program[a]					
Initial Claims Taken	5,349	3,920	3,985	+36.5	+34.2
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	53,433	42,185	40,129	+26.7	+33.2
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	53,944	41,881	38,207	+28.8	+41.2
Total Benefits Paid	$11,455,900	$8,831,327	$7,619,079	+29.7	+50.4
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$212.37	$210.87	$199.42	+0.7	+6.5
Number of First Payments	3,418	2,330	2,822	+46.7	+21.1
Number of Final Payments	1,335	1,026	1,039	+30.1	+28.5
Total Beneficiaries	13,969	11,986	10,197	+16.5	+37.0
Federal Program[b]					
Initial Claims Taken	233	51	109	+356.9	+113.8
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	2,686	2,091	2,139	+28.5	+25.6
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,768	2,135	2,315	+29.6	+19.6
Total Benefits Paid	$636,787	$47[illegible]57	$517,041	+35.2	+23.2
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$230.05	$220.54	$223.34	+4.3	+3.0
Number of First Payments	208	99	96	+110.1	+116.7
Number of Final Payments	82	50	69	+64.0	+18.8
Total Beneficiaries	711	565	566	+25.8	+25.6
Ex-Servicepersons Program[c]					
Initial Claims Taken	27	35	31	-22.9	-12.9
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	386	339	312	+13.9	+23.7
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	336	279	249	+20.4	+34.9
Total Benefits Paid	$70,936	$58,991	$52,257	+20.2	+35.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$211.12	$211.44	$209.87	-0.2	+0.6
Number of First Payments	31	21	17	+47.6	+82.4
Number of Final Payments	21	12	19	+75.0	+10.5
Total Beneficiaries	96	82	65	+17.1	+47.7
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	5,609	4,006	4,125	+40.0	+36.0
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	56,505	44,615	42,580	+26.7	+32.7
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	57,048	44,295	40,771	+28.8	+40.0
Total Benefits Paid	$12,163,623	$9,361,175	$8,188,377	+30.0	+48.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$213.22	$211.34	$200.84	+0.9	+6.2
Number of First Payments	3,657	2,450	2,935	+49.3	+24.6
Number of Final Payments	1,438	1,085	1,127	+32.5	+27.6
Total Beneficiaries	14,776	12,633	10,828	+17.0	+36.5

---

a/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

b/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation of Ex-Serviceperson (UCX).

c/ No joint claims.

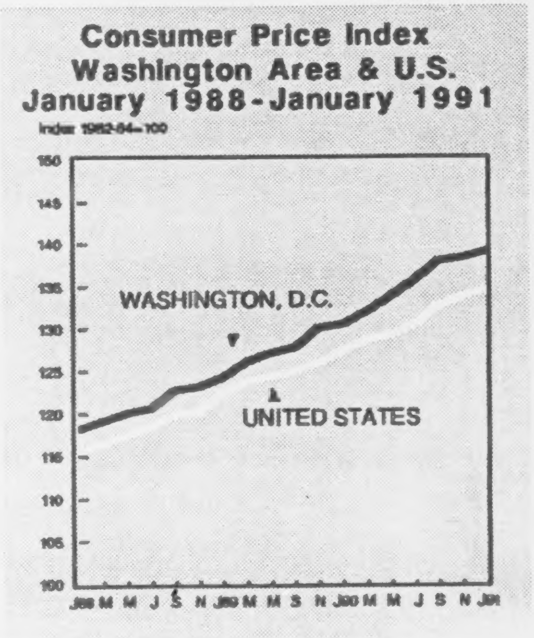
The Washington, D.C. Area Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area rose 0.5 percent during the 2 months ended in January, to a level of 139.1 (1982-84=100). **For the 12-month period ended in January, the CPI-U rose 5.4 percent.** The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose 0.4 percent from November to January. The January level of 137.7 (1982-84=100) was 5.0 percent higher than the CPI-W index in January 1990.

The 0.5 percent increase in the CPI-U from November to January follows an increase of 0.3 percent in the preceding 2-month period. The indexes for apparel and entertainment continued to decline between November and January. Transportation and medical care costs rose less than in the preceding 2-month period. The declines and price moderations in these components were more than offset by price increases in the food and beverages, housing, and other goods and services components.

Comparing the local CPI-U with the U.S. city average, over the November-January period, the acceleration was just about even. The prices of goods and services tended to increase more rapidly locally than nationally in apparel and upkeep, transportation and other goods and services. On the other hand, prices of goods and services tended to increase more rapidly nationally than locally in housing and entertainment. The increases in the prices of food and beverage, medical care and energy were just above even.

Over the year, the local index rose 5.4 percent, while the national index rose 5.7 percent, only 0.3 percent higher nationally. The prices of goods and services tended to increase more rapidly nationally than locally in food and beverage and housing. On the other hand, prices of goods and services tended to increase more rapidly locally than nationally in apparel and upkeep, entertainment and medical care. Price increases were just about even in transportation, other goods and services and energy.



Consumer Price Index
Washington Area & U.S.
January 1988-January 1991

Washington, D.C.
Area Consumer Price Index
(All Urban Consumers—CPI-U)[a]

	January 1991	Percent Change 2 months Ago	 Year Ago
ALL Items			
U.S.	134.6	+0.6	+5.7
Washington Area	139.1	+0.5	+5.4
Expenditure Category			
Food & Beverage	135.9	+1.6	+3.2
Housing	138.2	+0.4	+3.1
Apparel & Upkeep	138.9	-1.6	+8.3
Transportation	127.4	+0.2	+7.9
Medical Care	173.0	+1.6	+11.4
Entertainment	137.2	-1.3	+7.4
Other Goods & Services	174.6	+2.3	+8.6
Special Index:			
Energyb/	105.2	-3.3	+9.4

a/ **1982-84**=100, except as noted.
b/ June 1978=100.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics table prepared by the Department of Employment Services. Labor Market Information and Research Staff.

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for January 1991 decreased $18.71. Average Weekly Hours decreased 1.8 hours and Average Hourly Earnings rose 12 cents.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Stone, Clay and Glass Products had less business which caused Weekly earnings to drop $59.39 and weekly hours to drop 5.3 hours. Electric Machinery Equipment and Supplies' weekly earnings and weekly hours dropped $14.32 and 1.2 hours, respectively. The drop was attributable to a shorter scheduled workweek. Other Durable Goods also had a shorter workweek which caused the weekly earnings to drop $16.16 and weekly hours to drop 2.0 hours.

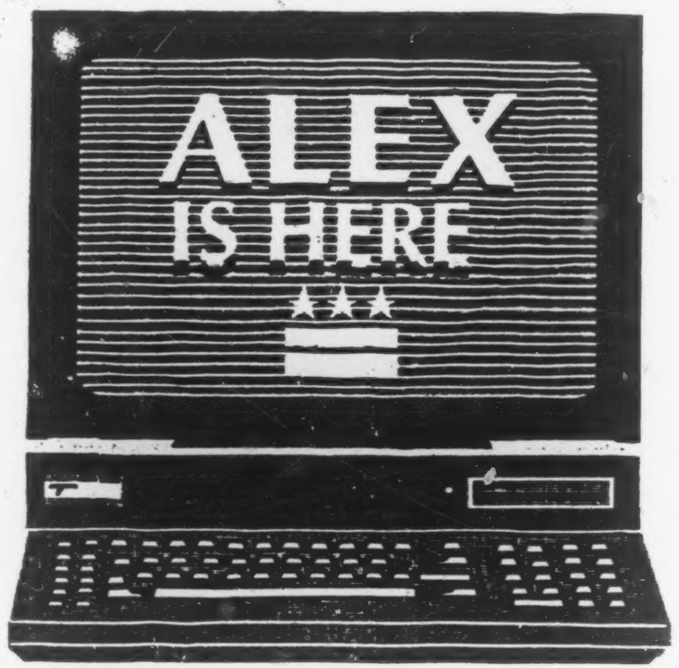
In the Non-Durable Goods Sector, Food and Kindred Products had less business which accounted for the drop in weekly earnings of $26.17. Weekly hours dropped 1.6 hours. A shorter scheduled workweek in Other Non-Durable Goods caused weekly earnings to register a decrease of $47.95 and a decrease of 5.0 hours in weekly hours.

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
January 1991

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Jan. 1991	Dec. 1990	Jan. 1990	Jan. 1991	Dec. 1990	Jan. 1990	Jan. 1991	Dec. 1990	Jan. 1990
Total Manufacturing	481.93	500.64	471.81	37.1	38.9	38.8	12.99	12.87	12.16
Durable Goods	506.97	529.09	496.60	40.3	42.6	42.3	12.58	12.42	11.74
Stone Clay & Glass Products	475.21	534.60	492.35	39.7	45.0	44.8	11.97	11.88	10.99
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	478.39	492.71	447.62	40.1	41.3	41.6	11.93	11.93	10.76
Other Durable Goods	526.99	543.15	511.18	40.6	42.6	41.9	12.98	12.75	12.20
Non-Durable Goods	462.26	477.11	450.90	34.6	35.9	35.9	13.36	13.29	12.56
Food & Kindred Products	463.30	489.47	417.96	41.0	42.6	38.7	11.30	11.49	10.80
Printing & Publishing	498.33	502.66	470.94	33.4	33.6	34.4	14.92	14.96	13.69
Other Non-Durable Goods	339.51	387.46	387.59	35.7	40.7	40.5	9.51	9.52	9.57

	Jan. 1991	Dec. 1990	Jan. 1990
Total Production Workers	37,600	38,000	39,900

NOTE: Data reflects revision to the 1990 Benchmark.



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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR FEBRUARY 1991

APRIL 1991

Jobs Continue to Decline
16,600 Fewer Jobs in the Area Than Last February

Labor Force

In February, unemployment rates in the Washington Area and its suburbs increased while the rate in the District decreased. The local January-to-February changes were rather marginal in size. Both the Area and the Suburban unemployment rates each increased 0.1 percentage point. For the Area, the rate increased from 4.4 percent to 4.5 percent and for the suburbs from 4.0 percent to 4.1 percent. The District's rate declined two-tenths of a percentage point to register 7.4 percent of the labor force.

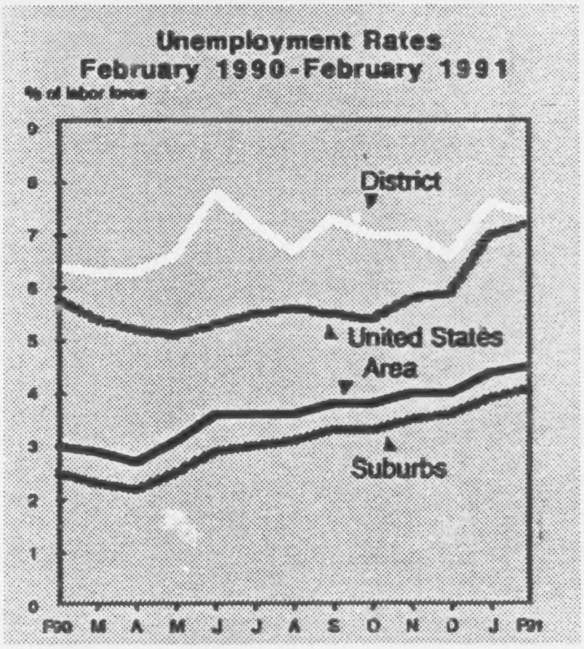
However, the over-the-year changes (February 1990 to February 1991) in the local jobless rates were significant. The rates were up 1.8 percent in the suburbs, 1.7 percent in the Area and 1.0 percent in the District. These yearly changes are clear statistical signs of declines in local business activities during the past year.

Unemployment among all workers in the United States in February was 7.2 percent when unadjusted for seasonal changes. This is only two-tenths of a percentage point lower than in the District. However, February marked the thirteenth consecutive month that the District's rate has exceeded that for the nation.

The District

In the District, all three measures of the labor force declined between January and February. Residents on payrolls fell by 3,400 and those on the unemployment rolls declined by 1,100. As a result of declines in both employment and unemployment, the labor force dropped by 4,400. These relatively small changes produced the monthly decline in the rate. Historically, February represents a month in which changes in direction of the unemployment rate tend to be mixed. Over the past 20 years, the District's rate has increased 10 times in February and decreased 10 times.

As has been the case for the past 7 or 8 months, the



Continued on page 3

Government of the
District of Columbia
Sharon Pratt Dixon
Mayor

JOB SERVICE

Department of
Employment Services
Maria Borrero
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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR FEBRUARY 1991 APRIL 1991

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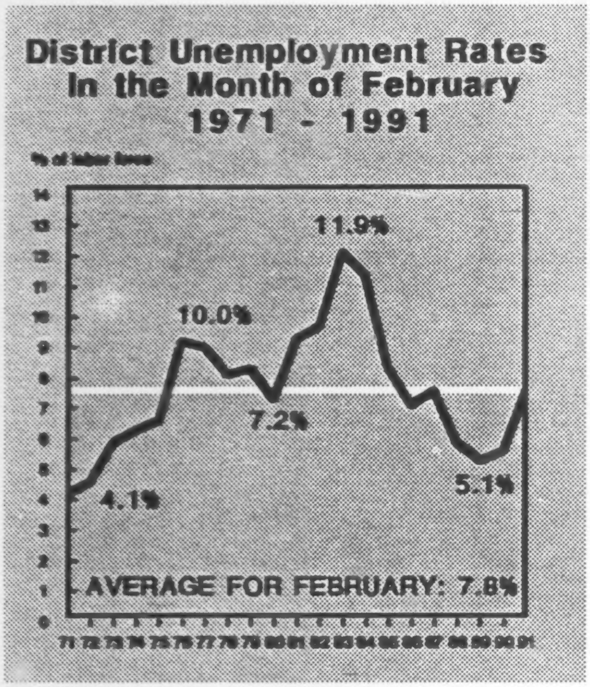
Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

Continued from page 1

over-the-year measurements are the numbers that most clearly demonstrate the impact of the local business downturn. For example, the number of working District residents has fallen over the year by 20,000 workers, a decline of 7.0 percent. The level of unemployment has risen by only 1,600 jobless residents, (about 8.0 percent). Thus, in the District, most of the decline in the level of employment has resulted in a drop in the size of the labor force of 18,200 people (6.0 percent). Many District residents seem to have responded to the downturn by dropping out of active participation in the job market.



District Unemployment Rates in the Month of February 1971 - 1991

The Suburbs & Area

In the suburbs, the February pattern was slightly different from the pattern in the District. There was a small loss in suburban employment of about 7,400 from a January employment base of 2,078,000 employed residents. The loss of employment was offset by a 5,400-person decline in the labor force, and, unlike in the District, an increase of 2,100 in unemployment. As a result, the suburban rate was up a tenth of a percentage point to 4.1 percent of the labor force.

Again the significant numbers are the over-the-year comparisons. In the suburbs in February, there were 57,600 fewer employed suburbanites, a decrease of over 3 percent. About 4 of every 10 persons losing jobs left the labor force, while 6 joined the unemployment rolls. **As a result, the suburban jobless register now contains 76,800 unemployed workers, up a significant 77 percent from a year earlier.**

February's labor market activities pushed the Area's unemployment rate up to 4.5 percent. The last time the Area's unemployment rate was this high was seven years ago in February 1984, when the rate was also 4.5 percent. Over the past year (February 1990 to February 1991) the labor force in the Washington Area declined by nearly 2.0 percent. **Sixty percent of the decline in the Area's labor supply occurred among suburbanites. Suburbanites accounted for 74 percent of the 77,600 Area residents losing jobs and for 95 percent of all the 35,000 increase in Washington Area unemployment.** Thus, the downturn in this business cycle has a very large suburban component.

Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C., MSA by City and County

	Feb.a/ 1991	Jan.b/ 1991	Feb.b/ 1990
1. Manassas City	8.3	6.3	2.7
2. Calvert County	8.2	8.2	3.8
3. Frederick County	8.1	8.5	4.4
4. District of Columbia	**7.4**	**7.6**	**6.4**
5. Stafford County	6.9	6.8	3.6
6. Charles County	5.1	5.1	2.7
7. Prince William Cty.	4.8	4.6	2.4
8. Prince Georges Cty.	4.7	4.7	3.1
9. Alexandria City	4.5	4.1	2.6
10. Manassas Park City	3.9	4.6	2.4
11. Loudoun County	3.8	3.2	1.8
12. Arlington County	3.4	3.1	2.1
13. Montgomery County	3.3	3.3	2.2
14. Fairfax County	3.0	2.7	1.8
15. Falls Church City	2.9	2.3	1.4
16. Fairfax City	2.4	2.3	1.9

a/ Preliminary. b/ Revised.

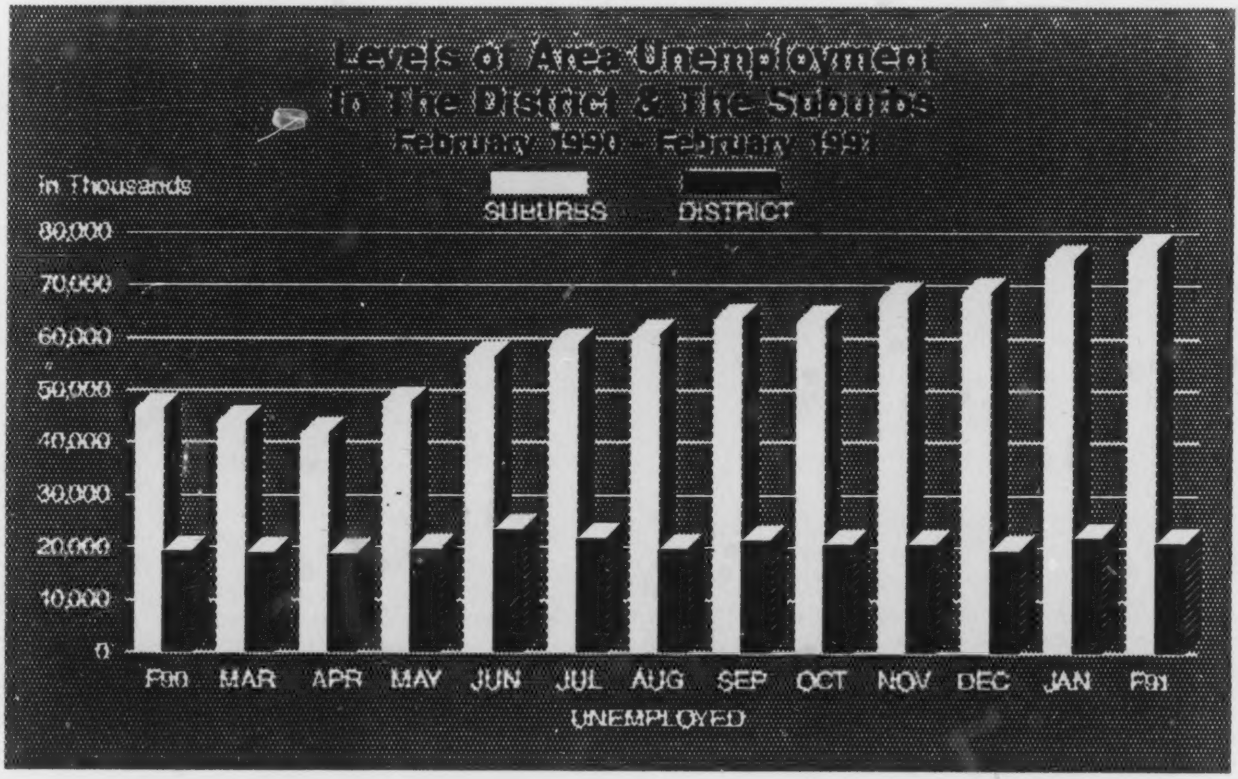
SOURCE: The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA
February 1991[a/]

	Feb.b/ 1991	Jan.c/ 1991	Feb.d/ 1990	Jan.d/ 1990	Net Change From Jan. 1991	Net Change From Feb. 1990
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	283,200	287,600	301,400	303,200	-4,400	-18,200
Total Employed	262,300	265,700	282,300	286,300	-3,400	-20,000
Total Unemployed	20,800	21,900	19,200	17,000	-1,100	1,600
Unemployment Rate e/	7.4	7.6	6.4	5.6	-0.2	1.0
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,881,600	1,887,000	1,906,000	1,900,900	-5,400	-24,400
Total Employed	1,804,900	1,812,300	1,862,500	1,857,000	-7,400	-57,600
Total Unemployed	76,800	74,700	43,400	43,800	2,100	33,400
Unemployment Rate e/	4.1	4.0	2.3	2.3	0.1	1.8
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,164,800	2,174,600	2,207,400	2,204,100	-9,800	-42,600
Total Employed	2,067,200	2,078,000	2,144,800	2,143,300	-10,800	-77,600
Total Unemployed	97,600	96,600	62,600	60,800	1,000	35,000
Unemployment Rate e/	4.5	4.4	2.8	2.8	0.1	1.7

a/ Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding. b/ Preliminary.
c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions. e/ Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia, the Virginia Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, and Stafford; and the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick, and Calvert.



Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

The number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits in the District of Columbia totaled 9,874 in February 1991, down 4,926 from January and down only 32 from a year ago. In February 1991, 58 percent of all UI claimants were males. Occupationally, professional, technical and managerial workers accounted for 25 percent of the total workers. This was followed by 22 percent each for clerical and sales service workers. Structural workers accounted for 19 percent of the claimants. The remaining 12 percent was distributed between machine trades, bench work, processing and miscellaneous workers.

The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 9.9 weeks for all claimants in February. Over the month, the duration for males rose from 8.5 weeks to 9.7 weeks, while for females the duration rose from 9.6 weeks to 10.0 weeks. A year ago, the duration was 9.5 weeks for males and 9.8 weeks for females.

Labor Force Distribution Washington Metropolitan Area February 1991 & February 1990

(percent)

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
		FEBRUARY 1991	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.1	12.7	21.3
Suburbs	86.9	87.3	78.7
		FEBRUARY 1990	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.7	13.2	30.7
Suburbs	86.3	86.8	69.3

Job Growth

The District

The number of jobs in the District increased by 1,300 for a gain of 0.2 percent between January and February. The private sector was responsible for the growth with primarily seasonal gains in Services (2,500 jobs).

The public sector declined by 1,500 jobs with losses in both Federal Government (1,400 jobs) and State and Local Government (100 jobs).

Over the year (February 1990 to February 1991), the number of District jobs decreased 0.1 percent for a loss of 800 jobs. **The private sector decreased at a rate of 0.3 percent for a loss of 1,200 jobs.** Losses were primarily concentrated in Retail Trade (1,700 jobs), Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,200 jobs) and Construction (500 jobs) while Services, the only job gainer, registered growth of 2,900 jobs.

The public sector gained 400 jobs for an increase of 0.1 percent with growth in State and Local Government (600 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (200 jobs).

The Suburbs

The number of suburban jobs decreased by 0.1 percent for a loss of 1,900 jobs between January and February. The private sector was responsible for the decline with primarily seasonal losses in Trade (5,500 jobs) and Construction (2,200 jobs). The Virginia suburbs accounted for 64 percent of the loss in Trade and 91 percent of the loss in Construction.

The public sector increased by 5,200 jobs with growth in State and Local Government (5,300 jobs) partially offset by a slight loss in Federal Government (100 jobs). The Maryland suburbs accounted for 74 percent of the increase in State and Local Government while the Virginia suburbs were responsible for the loss in Federal Government.

Over the year (February 1990 to February 1991), suburban jobs declined at a rate of 1.0 percent for a loss of 15,800 jobs. **The Maryland suburbs grew at a rate of 0.5 percent while the Virginia suburbs decreased at a rate of 2.5 percent.**

The private sector, declining at a rate of 1.7 percent, accounted for the loss in suburban jobs with growth

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Continued from page 5

in [illegible] service-producing sector (900 jobs) offset by a decline in the goods-producing sector (22,300 jobs). Job losses were primarily concentrated in Construction (19,700 jobs), Trade (2,700 jobs) and Manufacturing (2,500 jobs) while the only job gains occurred in Services (4,100 jobs) and Transportation and Public Utilities (500 jobs). Eighty-two percent of the Construction loss and all of the decline in Trade occurred in the Virginia suburbs while the Maryland suburbs were responsible for 52 percent of the loss in Manufacturing. The Virginia suburbs were responsible for 80 percent of the Services growth while the Maryland suburbs accounted for the growth in Transportation and Public Utilities.

The public sector grew at a rate of 1.8 percent with growth in State and Local Government (9,200 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (3,600 jobs). Fifty-one percent of the State and Local Government growth was concentrated in the Maryland suburbs while 92 percent of the decline in Federal Government occured in the Virginia suburbs.

The Area

The Washington Metropolitan Area lost 600 jobs between January and February. The private sector accounted for the loss with primarily seasonal declines in Trade (5,000 jobs) and Construction (2,300 jobs).

The public sector increased by 0.6 percent with a gain in State and Local Government (5,200 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (1,500 jobs).

Over the year (February 1990 to February 1991), the Area declined at a rate of 0.7 percent for a loss of 16,600 jobs. The private sector, declining at a rate of 1.4 percent for a loss of 22,600 jobs, was responsible for the Area job loss. Job losses were concentrated in Construction (20,200 jobs), Trade (4,200 jobs), Manufacturing (2,900 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (2,400 jobs) while job growth primarily occurred in Services (7,000 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 1.0 percent with gains in State and Local Government (9,800 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (3,800 jobs).

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work a/
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	Feb. b/ 1991	Jan. c/ 1991	Feb. d/ 1990	Feb. b/ 1991	Jan. c/ 1991	Feb. d/ 1990
TOTAL	**681.5**	**680.2**	**682.3**	**2,199.4**	**2,200.0**	**2,216.0**
Total Private Sector	**405.8**	**403.0**	**407.0**	**1,610.0**	**1,614.3**	**1,632.6**
Total Government	**275.7**	**277.2**	**275.3**	**589.4**	**585.7**	**583.4**
Total Goods Producing	**29.4**	**29.5**	**30.3**	**202.6**	**205.2**	**225.8**
Manufacturing	**15.4**	**15.4**	**15.8**	**85.4**	**85.7**	**88.3**
Total Durables	2.2	2.3	2.3	41.5	41.6	42.9
Stone, Clay, Glass Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.9	2.9	3.4
Electronic & Electric Equip.	N/A	N/A	N/A	18.5	18.7	17.1
All Other Durable	N/A	N/A	N/A	20.1	20.0	22.4
Total Non-Durable	13.2	13.1	13.5	43.9	44.1	45.4
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	4.6	4.7	4.6
Printing & Publishing	12.5	12.4	12.8	33.3	33.4	34.8
All Other Non-Durable	0.4	0.4	0.4	6.0	6.0	6.0
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**1.1**	**1.1**	**1.2**
Construction	**13.9**	**14.0**	**14.4**	**116.1**	**118.4**	**136.3**
Total Service Producing	**652.1**	**650.7**	**652.0**	**1996.8**	**1994.8**	**1990.2**

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6

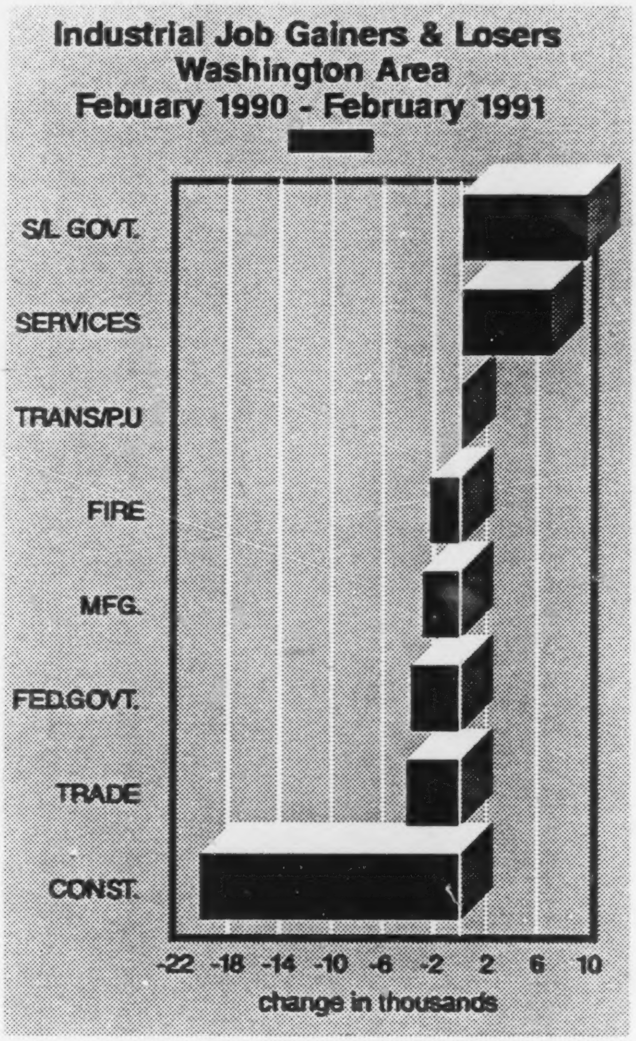
Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work a/
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	Feb. b/ 1991	Jan. c/ 1991	Feb. d/ 1990	Feb. b/ 1991	Jan. c/ 1991	Feb. d/ 1990
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	**23.5**	**23.5**	**23.8**	**106.6**	**107.8**	**106.4**
All Transportation	8.9	8.9	9.2	50.5	51.6	50.5
Railroads	4.2	4.2	4.1	5.3	5.3	5.3
Transportation ex. Railroad	4.7	4.7	5.1	45.2	46.3	45.2
Communications & Public Utilities	14.6	14.6	14.6	56.1	56.2	55.9
Trade	**59.6**	**59.3**	**61.3**	**422.2**	**427.2**	**426.4**
Wholesale	8.2	8.3	8.2	78.7	78.6	77.7
Retail	51.4	51.0	53.1	343.5	348.6	348.7
General Merchandise	N/A	N/A	N/A	36.7	39.8	38.4
Food Stores	N/A	N/A	N/A	50.1	50.3	49.3
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	35.9	36.0	37.4
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	28.5	29.6	28.6
Eating & Drinking Places	27.0	26.5	27.3	112.1	111.4	113.2
All Other Retail	24.4	24.5	25.8	80.2	81.5	81.8
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**32.9**	**32.8**	**34.1**	**128.5**	**128.5**	**130.9**
Finance	15.4	15.4	16.2	59.3	59.6	60.6
Depository Institutions	8.4	8.4	9.2	39.3	39.7	40.3
Other Finance	7.0	7.0	7.0	20.0	19.9	20.3
Insurance	8.0	8.0	8.0	28.6	28.4	27.7
Real Estate	9.5	9.4	9.9	40.6	40.5	42.6
Services	**260.4**	**257.9**	**257.5**	**750.1**	**745.6**	**743.1**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	17.1	16.2	16.6	38.0	36.9	36.8
Personal Services	3.4	3.4	3.6	23.1	22.7	23.5
Business Services	38.1	38.0	38.6	179.2	178.7	178.8
Service to Buildings	13.1	13.1	14.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Personnel Supply	7.8	7.8	8.4	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	6.0	5.9	5.4	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Business Services	11.2	11.2	10.8	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	38.0	37.8	38.1	118.8	118.7	116.3
Legal Services	30.3	30.1	29.8	40.7	40.5	40.1
Educational Services	32.1	31.3	31.7	46.1	45.0	45.1
Social Services	12.9	12.9	12.5	36.9	36.8	34.7
Membership Organizations	34.7	34.6	33.5	62.8	62.5	60.8
Engineering/Management Ser.	43.6	43.5	43.2	144.7	144.6	146.9
All Other Services	10.2	10.1	9.9	59.8	59.2	60.1
Government	**275.7**	**277.2**	**275.3**	**589.4**	**585.7**	**583.4**
Federal Government	218.7	220.1	218.9	358.6	360.1	362.4
State & Local Government	57.0	57.1	56.4	230.8	225.6	221.0
State Government	52.2	52.3	51.6	81.0	79.8	78.7
Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	149.8	145.8	142.3
Public Transportation	4.8	4.8	4.8	N/A	N/A	N/A

a/ Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. b/ Preliminary.
c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions.

Data includes all full-and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

SOURCE: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Industrial Job Gainers & Losers
Washington Area
Febuary 1990 - February 1991

Area Job Growth Rates

Over the past five years (February 1986 to February 1991), the Washington Area has created new jobs at a rate of 3.2 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has declined from a peak of 5.0 percent in August 1987 to a net loss of seven-tenths of a percent in February 1991. **This marked the fourth consecutive month that the Washington Area recorded an over-the-year job loss.** This February's measurement was down from a 1.4 increase reported in February of 1990.

For the sixth consecutive month, the suburban economy recorded an over-the-year job loss. The February loss represented a job decline of one percent from a year earlier. This suburban loss was down from the yearly growth of 1.3 percent reported in February 1990. In the District, the number of jobs decreased over the year by one-tenth of a percentage point. The loss of District jobs this year compares to a growth of 1.7 percent reported a year ago.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from a peak gain during the past five years of 101,300 new jobs created between July 1986 and July 1987, to a loss of 16,600 jobs between February 1990 and this past February. Over the past year, 15,800 jobs were lost by the suburban economy, while the District lost 800 jobs.

In February, the U.S. economy for the first month lost a small number of new jobs over the year compared to a slightly larger loss in the Washington Area (a 0.3 percent decline for the U.S. economy vs. the 0.7 percent loss for the Washington Area). January marked the fifteenth consecutive month in which the rate of local job creation was below the rate for all of the United States.

In February, the Washington Area continued to lose more jobs due to over-the-year suburban declines. An early recovery will depend on the strength of the traditional local employment expansion which occurs in the spring. Area state and local governments which have been one of the region's growth industries still have not implemented their much discussed spending and job retrenchment plans. The implementation of these public sector plans could negate any weak recovery in the private sector and prove to be a negative factor in any early recovery.

Profile of Job Growth Rates
February 1990 to February 1991

The Area	
Average 60 months	3.2%
High, August 1987	5.0%
Low, February 1991	−0.7%
1-year ago	1.4%
Last month	−0.3%
Current month	−0.7%
The Suburbs	
Average 60 months	3.8%
High, July 1987	6.2%
Low, February 1991	−1.0%
1-year ago	1.3%
Last month	−0.6%
Current month	−1.0%
The District	
Average 60 months	1.8%
High, Decemberr 1987	3.8%
Low, August 1990	−0.3%
1-year ago	1.7%
Last month	0.4%
Current month	−0.1%

Note: Data reflects benchmark revisions for 1989-1990.

District Announces Possible Job Opportunities in Kuwait

The Department of Employment Services, (DOES) advises residents interested in possible reconstruction job opportunities in Kuwait to bring resumes and register at the department's local employment service centers. Although no positions have yet been listed, employment opportunities may arise as American companies are awarded reconstruction contracts. Registered applicants will be immediately informed as job openings become available.

DOES has received hundreds of inquiries about possible jobs in the Persian Gulf, but at present there are none listed with the department's Job Bank or with the Interstate Job Bank. Employment opportunities from throughout the United States are listed with the Interstate Job Bank.

The U.S. Departments of Labor and Commerce encourage—but do not require—employers who may eventually have job opportunities in Kuwait to list those jobs with local employment services offices.

A Persian Gulf Reconstruction Center has been established in the District by the U.S. Department of Commerce to provide information to U.S. firms and assist them in securing contracts for reconstruction efforts. Employers interested in obtaining information on possible reconstruction contracts should call 202/377-5767 or 202/377-5737. The center does not offer job placement assistance, but suggests that interested workers register at the local employment services offices.

For further information regarding the department's assistance to residents seeking jobs in the Persian Gulf, call the Department of Employment Services at 202/639-2000.

Local employment services offices, where prospective workers can register, are at the following locations:

Anacostia Employment Services Center
1217 Good Hope Road, S.E.

Benning Employment Services Center
4017 Minnesota Avenue, S.E.

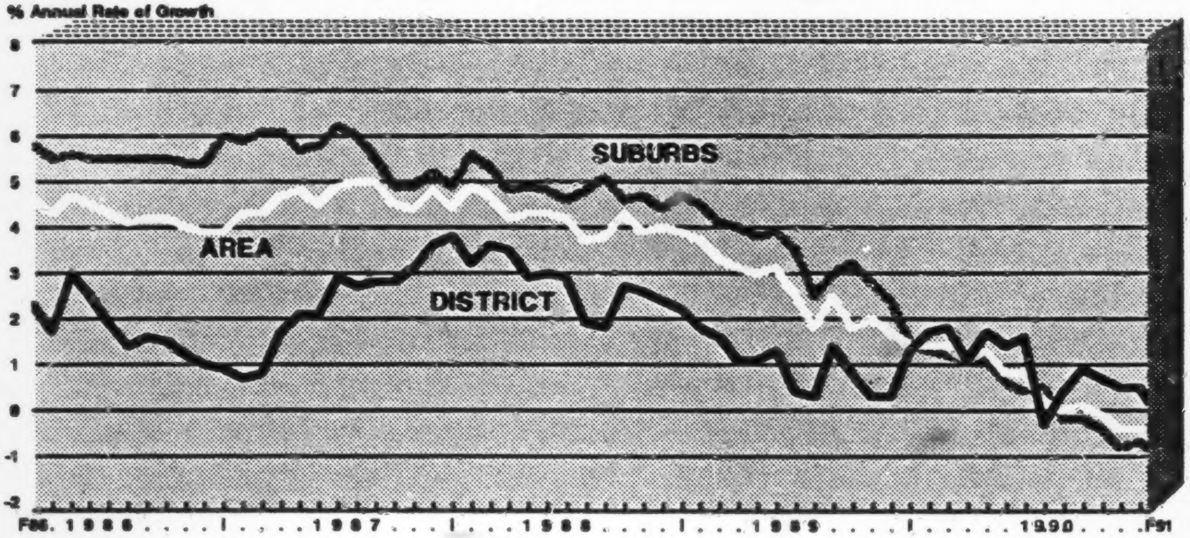
Latino Employment Services Center
1803 Belmont Road, N.W.

Northeast Employment Services Center
25 K Street, N.E.

Petworth Employment Services Center
4120 Kansas Avenue, N.W.

South Capitol Employment Services Center
4049 S. Capitol Street, S.W.

Monthly Over-The-Year Rate of Job Growth
February 1986 - February 1991



Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area

In January 1991, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 269 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The Washington Area's January jobless rate was up 0.4 percentage point to 4.4 percent. This was the thirty-third lowest jobless rate of the 269 areas reporting. A year ago, the Washington Area rate was 2.8 percent.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 4.4 percent was the third lowest of all the major metropolitan areas. This compares to the sixth lowest in December, the eighth lowest in November and the second lowest recorded in October.

The Baltimore Area, only 35 miles north of Washington, reported a 0.5 percentage point drop in their jobless rate, down from 6.9 percent in December to 6.4 percent in January. A year ago, the Baltimore rate was 4.7 percent, up a significant 1.7 percentage points over the year. This makes the Baltimore area the thirty-third highest rate among the 44 selected areas tracked in the Area Labor Summary.

The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, recorded a 0.6 percentage point increase in its January jobless rate, up from 4.3 percent to 4.9 percent. A year ago, the rate was 3.4 percent.

Of the 44 selected areas, jobless rates between 4.0 percent and 4.9 percent were reported in 10 other large metropolitan areas, the lowest being recorded in Milwaukee 4.1 percent. This was followed by Salt Lake City at 4.3 percent. San Francisco, Minneapolis-St. Paul and Phoenix along with the Washington Area each reported rates at 4.4 percent.

There were 13 large metropolitan areas with rates between 5.0 and 5.9 percent. There also were 12 large metropolitan areas with rates between 6.0 and 6.9 percent, and 7 large metropolitan areas with rates between 7.0 and 7.9 percent. Detroit at 8.7 percent was the only major metropolitan area with a January rate above 8 percent.

Of the 269 metropolitan areas for which January data are available, 127 had over-the-year increases of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rates, while only 12 had decreases of that magnitude. A total of 55 areas had January 1991 rates of 8 percent or higher, while 59 had rates of 5 percent or below.

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Unemployment Rates in Selected Statistical Areas

	MSA	January 1991*
1.	Milwaukee, WI	4.1
2.	Salt Lake City, UT	4.3
3.	**Washington, D.C.**	**4.4**
4.	San Francisco, CA	4.4
5.	Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	4.4
6.	Phoenix, AR	4.4
7.	Seattle, WA	4.7
8.	Nashville, TN	4.8
9.	Richmond-Petersburg, VA	4.9
10.	Portland, OR	4.9
11.	Birmingham, AL	4.9
12.	Hartford, CT	5.0
13.	Cincinnati, OH	5.0
14.	Columbus, OH	5.1
15.	Denver, CO	5.2
16.	New Orleans, LA	5.4
17.	Oakland, CA	5.5
18.	Memphis, TN	5.5
19.	Montgomery, AL	5.5
20.	Houston, TX	5.6
21.	Indianapolis, IN	5.7
22.	Dallas, TX	5.8
23.	Atlanta, GA	5.8
24.	Cleveland, OH	5.9
25.	Philadelphia, PA	6.1
26.	Gary, IN	6.1
27.	Jackson, MS	6.1
28.	Kansas City, MO	6.2
29.	Pittsburgh, PA	6.3
30.	Dayton, OH	6.3
31.	San Diego, CA	6.3
32.	Louisville, KY	6.4
33.	Baltimore, MD	6.4
34.	Los Angeles, CA	6.6
35.	Chicago, IL	6.7
36.	Miami, FL	6.8
37.	Sacramento, CA	7.0
38.	New York, NY	7.1
39.	St. Louis, MO	7.1
40.	Newark, NJ	7.2
41.	Oklahoma City, OK	7.4
42.	Boston, MA	7.5
43.	Buffalo, NY	7.6
44.	Detroit, MI	8.7

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

(Due to annual benchmarking, revised data for January 1990 is unavailable.)

Continued from page 11

States

When the District of Columbia (with a January unemployment rate of 7.6 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the eleventh highest jobless rate in the County. This was one notch above the position held in December.

Maryland's rate at 6.1 percent was unchanged from December. Maryland's rate has been growing increasingly over the last year. This month, Maryland ranked thirty-fifth, down from its twenty-third position held in December. A year ago, Maryland's rate was 4.3 percent.

On the other hand, Virginia's rate at 5.8 percent was up 0.9 percentage point from December. Virginia has one of the twelve lowest jobless rates and ranked fortieth among the 51 jurisdictions. A year ago, Virginia's jobless rate was 4.4 percent.

Twenty-four states and the District of Columbia reported over-the-year increases in their unemployment rate of 1 percentage point or more. The largest increases took place in New England, with Massachusetts reporting the biggest rise (4.0 points), followed by Maine (3.5 points), Vermont (3.4 points) and New Hampshire (2.7 points).

Eight states had January 1991 unemployment rates of 8 percent or higher, compared with four a year earlier. West Virginia, at 10.6 percent, was the first state in more than a year to record a double-digit unemployment rate. Seven states had jobless rates of 8.0 percent or more—Massachusetts (9.0 percent), Mississippi (8.9 percent), Alaska (8.8 percent), Maine (8.7 percent), Michigan (8.6 percent), Rhode Island (8.4 percent) and Arkansas (8.2 percent). Only five states had jobless rates of 5 percent or below, compared with 17 a year earlier. Nebraska (2.7 percent) and Hawaii (2.8 percent) had the lowest rates in January 1991, as they did in January 1990.

Cities

In comparison with the 26 selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with a January preliminary rate of 7.6 percent) held the fourteenth position. This was one notch above the December position when it was thirteenth. In January, the average unemployment rate of the 27 cities was 7.7 percent, up from 6.6 percent in December. The January jobless rate was up 0.7 percentage point from the 7.0 percent posted in January 1990.

Only seven cities reported jobless rates at or below 6 percent, with the lowest posted in Salt Lake City at 4.5 percent, followed by San Francisco and Columbus both at 5.1.

Baltimore's rate at 9.1 percent was down 0.9 percentage point over the month. Baltimore held the twenty-third position among the 27 selected cities. Baltimore's January 1991 rate was 2.4 percentage points higher than the January 1990 rate of 6.7 percent.

For the first time in five months, Gary was a double digiter. The City's January rate increased from 8.7 percent in December to 10.5 percent in January, a jump of 1.8 percentage points. A year ago, Gary's rate was 10.2 percent.

This was the fifth consecutive month that Newark was in the double digit column. Newark held the twenty-seventh position for the second consecutive month. The January rate at 13.3 percent was 2.4 percentage point higher than in December and 3.3 percentage points higher than the 10.0 percent recorded in January 1990.

Detroit's jobless rate at 12.6 percent in January was up from the 10.8 percent posted in December. For the second consecutive month Detroit recorded the second highest among the twenty-seven selected cities. The 12.6 percent is 0.6 percent higher than the 12.0 percent recorded a year ago.

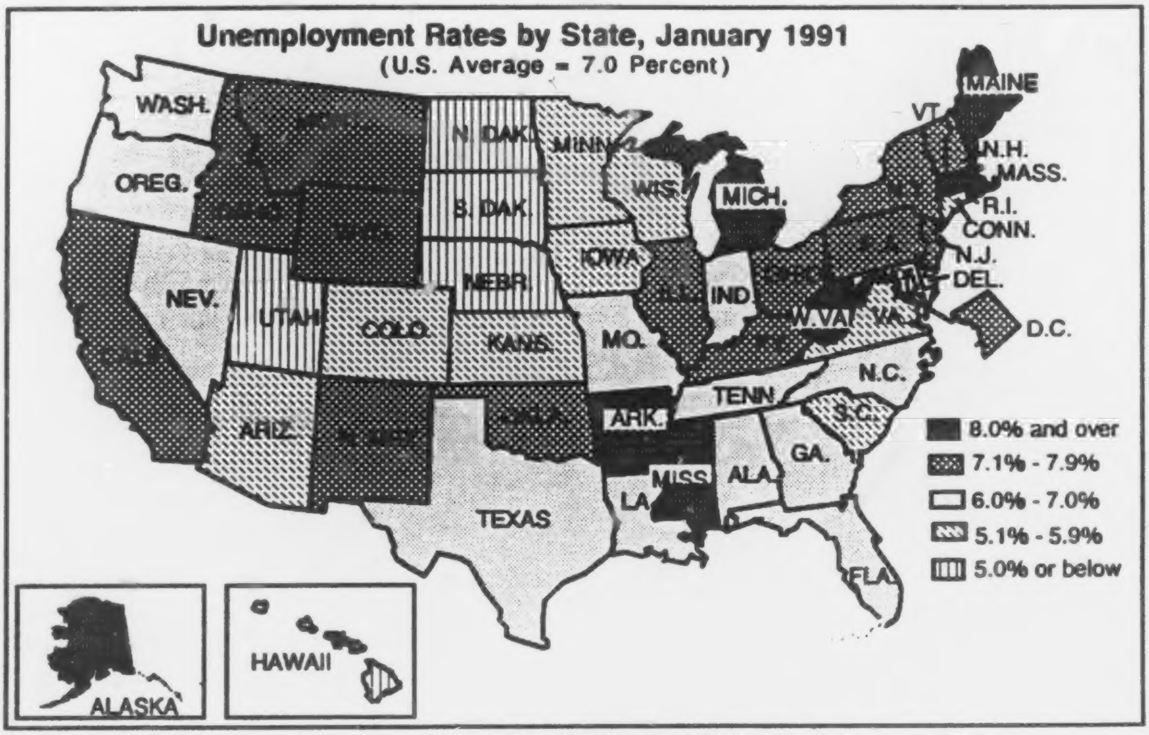
Of the 27 selected central cities, only seven reported decreases in joblessness and twenty reported increases in joblessness over the year. The largest over-the-year decrease was the 1.2 percentage points posted in New Orleans. There were five cities with substantial over-the-year increases in joblessness, with the largest being recorded in Boston 3.4 percent, Newark 3.3 percent, Buffalo 3.1 percent, the District of Columbia 2.7 percent and Baltimore 2.4 percent.

Hire More Workers,

Pay Less Taxes!

TARGETED JOBS TAX CREDIT PROGRAM (TJTC)

(Call 639-1661)



Unemployment Rates by State, January 1991

(U.S. Average = 7.0 Percent)

WASH.
OREG.
NEV.
UTAH
ARIZ.
COLO.
N. DAK.
S. DAK.
NEBR.
KANS.
MINN.
IOWA
MO.
WIS.
MICH.
ILL.
IND.
OHIO
W.VA.
VA.
TENN.
N.C.
S.C.
ARK.
MISS.
ALA.
GA.
LA.
TEXAS
FLA.
MAINE
VT.
N.H.
MASS.
R.I.
CONN.
N.J.
DEL.
D.C.
ALASKA
HAWAII
8.0% and over
7.1% - 7.9%
6.0% - 7.0%
5.1% - 5.9%
5.0% or below

Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities

	January	
	1991*	1990
1. Salt Lake City, UT	4.5	4.4
2. San Francisco, CA	5.1	4.0
3. Columbus, OH	5.1	5.9
4. Milwaukee, WI	5.2	5.6
5. Pittsburgh, PA	5.3	5.1
6. New Orleans, LA	5.3	6.5
7. Cincinnati, OH	5.9	6.3
8. Houston, TX	6.1	5.1
9. Birmingham, AL	6.1	6.9
10. Dallas, TX	6.7	5.2
11. Los Angeles, CA	7.3	6.6
12. Philadelphia, PA	7.4	5.8
13. New York, NY	7.4	7.0
14. District of Columbia	**7.6**	**4.9**
15. Atlanta, GA	7.6	6.8
16. Boston, MA	7.8	4.4
17. Chicago, IL	8.0	7.7
18. St. Louis, MO	8.0	8.9
19. Miami, FL	8.4	7.9
20. Hartford, CT	9.0	8.8
21. Cleveland, OH	9.0	9.1
22. Dayton, OH	9.1	9.9
23. Baltimore, MD	9.1	6.7
24. Gary, IN	10.5	10.2
25. Buffalo, NY	10.7	7.6
26. Detroit, MI	12.6	12.0
27. Newark, NJ	13.3	10.0

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

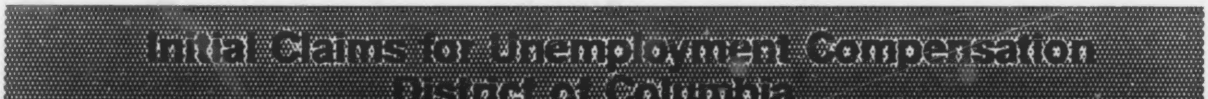
Unemployment Insurance Activities—February 1991

There were 3,830 claims filed for unemployment insurance benefits by persons who worked in the District of Columbia during February 1991—a 32 percent drop from January. The decline was expected, as January is a seasonally high month for claims filing purposes. In addition to the change-of-base period seasonal surge last month, the continuing economic slowdown with attendant layoffs and establishment closings contributed to the high level of January initial claims. Compared to February of last year, the claims level was 32 percent higher.

The number of weeks claimed and number of weeks compensated dropped 9 and 11 percent, respectively, from last month. This movement was also somewhat expected because of the seasonal drop in initial claims. Compared to February of last year, however, the weeks claimed climbed 50 percent and the weeks compensated rose 56 percent. This is a reflection of the decline in the local economy from last year to this. Mirroring the same situation is the 66 percent rise in benefit outlay from $6.5 to $10.8 million. However, the $10.8 million in February was 11 percent below January of this year.

The February 1991 average weekly benefit amount ($213.51) was virtually unchanged from the $213.22 registered last month. The amount this month was 6 percent above the same period last year—principally reflecting the wage-base increase in the benefit of current recipients. The maximum benefit amount and its related scale of benefits remain the same as in 1990.

The two-month (January-February) outlay in 1991 is $23.0 million. In 1990, the comparable amount was $14.7 million. The rise in outlay is principally a reflection of the higher level of the workload (weeks compensated) during the current period, and to a lesser degree, the slightly higher average weekly benefit amount. Weeks compensated in 1991 for the two-month period totalled 107,880 compared to 73,300 in 1990.



Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
February 1991

	Feb. 1991	Jan. 1991	Feb. 1990	% Change From Jan. 1991	% Change From Feb. 1990
State UI Program[a]					
Initial Claims Taken	3,724	5,349	2,788	-30.4	+33.6
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	48,460	53,433	32,284	-9.3	+50.1
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	47,979	53,944	30,510	-11.1	+57.3
Total Benefits Paid	$10,195,478	$11,455,900	$6,077,136	-11.0	+67.8
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$212.50	$212.37	$199.19	+0.1	+6.7
Number of First Payments	2,954	3,418	1,672	-13.6	+76.7
Number of Final Payments	1,176	1,335	733	-11.9	+60.4
Total Beneficiaries	14,102	13,969	9,294	+1.0	+51.7
Federal Program[b]					
Initial Claims Taken	26	233	73	-67.4	+4.1
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	2,456	2,686	1,734	-8.6	+41.6
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,609	2,768	1,847	+5.7	+41.3
Total Benefits Paid	$607,025	$636,787	$413,000	-4.7	+47.0
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$232.67	$230.05	$223.61	+1.1	+4.1
Number of First Payments	135	208	83	-35.1	+62.7
Number of Final Payments	59	82	42	-28.0	+40.5
Total Beneficiaries	713	711	528	+0.3	+35.0
Ex-Servicepersons Programc/					
Initial Claims Taken	28	27	33	+3.7	-15.2
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	304	386	217	-21.2	+40.1
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	242	336	177	-28.0	+36.7
Total Benefits Paid	$50,053	$70,936	$36,243	-29.4	+38.1
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$206.83	$211.12	$204.76	-2.0	+1.0
Number of First Payments	16	31	21	-48.4	-23.8
Number of Final Payments	14	21	18	-33.3	-22.2
Total Beneficiaries	76	96	60	-20.8	+26.7
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	3,828	5,609	2,894	-31.8	+32.3
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	51,220	56,505	34,235	-9.4	+49.6
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	50,830	57,048	32,534	-10.9	+56.2
Total Benefits Paid	$10,852,556	$12,163,623	$6,526,381	-10.8	+66.3
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$213.51	$213.22	$200.60	+0.1	+6.4
Number of First Payments	3,105	3,657	1,776	-15.1	+74.8
Number of Final Payments	1,249	1,438	793	-13.1	+59.5
Total Beneficiaries	14,891	14,776	9,882	+0.8	+50.7

a/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

b/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation of Ex-Serviceperson (UCX).

c/ No joint claims.

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for February 1991 increased $13.42, Average Weekly Hours increased 1.4 hours and Average Hourly Earnings decreased 12 cents.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Stone, Clay and Glass Products had a longer scheduled workweek which caused weekly hours to increase 1.7 hours. Electric Machinery Equipment and Supplies reflects overtime worked at premium pay. Weekly earnings rose $22.97, weekly hours rose 1.2 hours as hourly earnings dropped slightly by 4 cents. Other Durable Goods showed more business in conjunction with overtime, as weekly earnings increased $7.17, weekly hours went up 1.6 hours and hourly earnings showed a drop of 31 cents.

In the Non-Durable Goods Sector, Food and Kindred Products recorded overtime causing weekly earnings to increase $7.98, as hourly earnings increased 47 cents. Other Non-Durable Goods' longer scheduled workweek resulted in weekly hours rising considerably by 3.8 hours.

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
February 1991

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Feb. 1991	Jan. 1991	Feb. 1990	Feb. 1991	Jan. 1931	Feb. 1990	Feb. 1991	Jan. 1991	Feb. 1990
Total Manufacturing	497.92	484.50	479.76	38.9	37.5	39.1	12.80	12.92	12.27
Durable Goods	524.41	510.45	500.07	42.6	41.0	42.2	12.31	12.45	11.85
Stone Clay & Glass Products	499.73	481.16	524.64	42.1	40.4	45.7	11.87	11.91	11.48
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	502.49	479.52	445.46	41.7	40.5	41.4	12.05	11.84	10.76
Other Durable Goods	537.50	530.33	510.41	43.0	41.4	41.7	12.50	12.81	12.24
Non-Durable Goods	477.00	464.58	462.46	36.0	34.8	36.5	13.25	13.35	12.67
Food & Kindred Products	476.14	468.16	423.15	40.8	41.8	40.3	11.67	11.20	10.50
Printing & Publishing	506.27	496.81	486.82	34.3	33.5	35.2	14.76	14.83	13.83
Other Non-Durable Goods	380.56	351.56	384.16	39.6	35.8	40.1	9.61	9.82	9.58
Total Production Workers		Feb. 1991			Jan. 1991			Feb. 1990	
		37,900			37,800			39,700	

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Government of the
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- Your social security card
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- If you are a male, within 30 days after your 18th birthday, proof of selective service registration

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For further information call:

The D.C. Department of Employment Services

Office of Youth Employment Programs (202) 639-1683

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Maria Borrero, Director

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Maria Borrero, Acting Director

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DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR MARCH 1991 MAY 1991

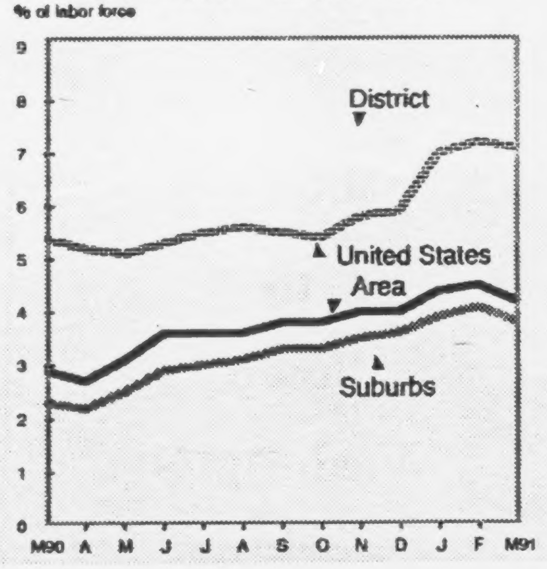
Unemployment Rates Decline in March but Job Losses Continue

Labor Force

Unemployment rates across the Washington Metropolitan Area dropped in March. In the Area, the rate declined from 4.5 percent of the labor force in February to 4.2 percent in March. In the suburbs, the rate also declined three-tenths of a percentage point, dropping from 4.1 percent to 3.8 percent. In the District, the decline was half a percentage point, falling from 7.4 percent in February to 6.9 percent in March. Compared to March of last year, Washington Area unemployment rates are significantly higher this March—1.8 percentage points in the suburbs, 1.6 points in the Area and 0.6 point in the District. These over-the-year measurements reflect the sharp decline in local business activity during the past year.

In March, the unadjusted unemployment rate of all civilian workers in the United States was 7.1 percent, down from 7.2 percent in February. Over the year, the U.S. rate was up by 1.7 percentage points, about the same as in the Washington Area. March marked the first time in thirteen months that the District's rate fell below the rate for all American workers.

Unemployment Rates
March 1990 - March 1991



The District

The February-to-March labor market changes in the District were all positive—the labor force grew, while employment expanded even more. Thus, both the level of joblessness and the unemployment rate were pushed lower. During March, 1,900 District residents entered the labor market. Local employers hired 3,000 workers, thereby absorbing the net March addition to the labor supply. Some 1,600 additional jobless residents withdrew from the unemployment roster. These positive movements produced the significant March drop in the jobless rate of half of a percentage point.

Traditionally, the District's unemployment rate declines between February and March. During the past

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Government of the
District of Columbia
Sharon Pratt Dixon
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JOB SERVICE

Department of
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The Department of Employment Services

Working to keep Washington working.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR MARCH 1991 MAY 1991

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Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

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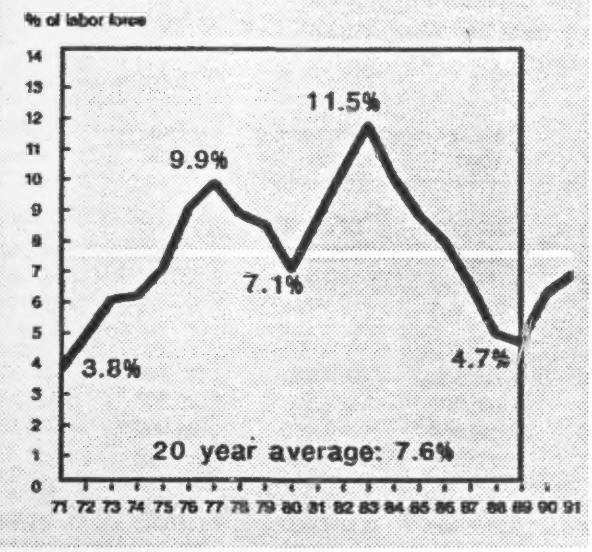
14 years, the District's rate in March has fallen 11 times and has risen only 3 times. Thus, this March's movement reflects the expected seasonal pattern.

The March statistics clearly demonstrate the impact of recessionary declines in Area business activities during the past year. Between March 1990 and March 1991, the District's labor force lost 17,300 workers, a significant decline of 5.7 percent. This shrinkage in the labor supply reflects an even larger 18,200 loss of jobholding residents—an employment decline of 6.4 percent. In the District, the employment decline has resulted primarily in a decrease in the labor supply. The increase in the level of District unemployment has been relatively small, amounting to a 900-person increase, or 4.8 percent. The overall result is a six-tenths of a percentage point increase in the District's unemployment rate over the year. This compares to approximately 1.6 percentage points increase in the unemployment rate in the Area, the suburbs and the nation.

District Unemployment Rates In the Month of March 1971 - 1991



The Area & Suburbs

Monthly movements in labor statistics in the Area and the suburbs mirrored those in the District. In March, both the Area and suburban labor forces grew, but employment expansions were even larger. Thus, additional jobless Area residents and suburbanites were withdrawn from unemployment rosters and the Area and suburban unemployment rates fell between February and March.

In March, 16,100 suburbanites entered the labor market while local employers added 20,900 suburban residents to their payrolls. The March employment expansion (1.2 percent) was thus strong enough to absorb the increase in the labor force and reduce suburban unemployment by 4,900. These labor force changes caused the suburban unemployment rate to drop three-tenths of a percentage point. **The February-to-March decline in the suburban rate represents the first monthly drop in the past 10 months.**

While the March suburban labor market changes represent a reasonably strong seasonal performance, the over-the-year suburban picture shows recessionary level market declines. For example, between March 1990 and March 1991, the number of suburbanites on employer payrolls fell by 52,700 workers—a yearly drop of nearly 3 percent. Unlike in the District, shrinking employment among suburbanites did not

Continued on page 4

Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C., MSA by City and County

	Mar.a/ 1991	Feb.b/ 1991	Mar.b/ 1990
1. Calvert County	7.3	8.2	3.3
2. Manassas City	7.2	8.3	2.1
3. Frederick County	6.9	8.1	3.5
4. District of Columbia	**6.9**	**7.4**	**6.3**
5. Stafford County	6.8	7.0	3.3
6. Charles County	4.8	5.1	2.5
7. Prince William County	4.7	4.9	2.2
8. Prince Georges County	4.4	4.7	3.0
9. Alexandria City	4.2	4.6	2.6
10. Manassas Park City	3.8	3.9	2.1
11. Loudoun County	3.8	3.8	1.7
12. Arlington County	3.2	3.3	2.0
13. Montgomery County	3.1	3.3	2.0
14. Fairfax County	2.9	3.0	1.8
15. Falls Church City	2.8	2.7	1.4
16. Fairfax City	2.1	2.5	1.7

a/ Preliminary. b/ Revised.

SOURCE: The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Continued from page 3

result in any large contractions in the labor supply. Only 19,300 suburbanites left the labor force last year, a decline of only one percent vs. the nearly 6 percent labor force shrinkage in the District. As a result, the suburban unemployment rolls underwent a significant expansion of 33,400, a yearly increase of 85 percent. This large increase in the number of unemployed suburbanites generated a yearly increase of 1.8 percentage points in the unemployment rate and pushed the rate up from a very low 2.0 percent a year ago to 3.8 percent this March.

At the level of the Metropolitan Area's labor market, the positive monthly movements in the March labor force in both the District and the suburbs resulted in expanded Area employment and decreased unemployment. March was the first time in 4 months that the Area's unemployment rate fell. At 4.2 percent of the Area's labor force, this was the highest March unemployment rate since the 4.4 percent recorded seven years ago in March 1984.

While the March labor market changes for the Area were positive and relatively strong, the over-the-year performance shows the true impact of the declining economic activity in the Washington Area. Compared to March 1990, there are now 70,900 fewer Area residents with jobs, 36,600 fewer persons in the labor force and 34,300 more on the unemployment rolls. This latter statistic represents a nearly 60 percent increase in the number of jobless Area workers. The consequence of labor market changes during the past year is a large 1.6 percentage points increase in the Area's unemployment rate.

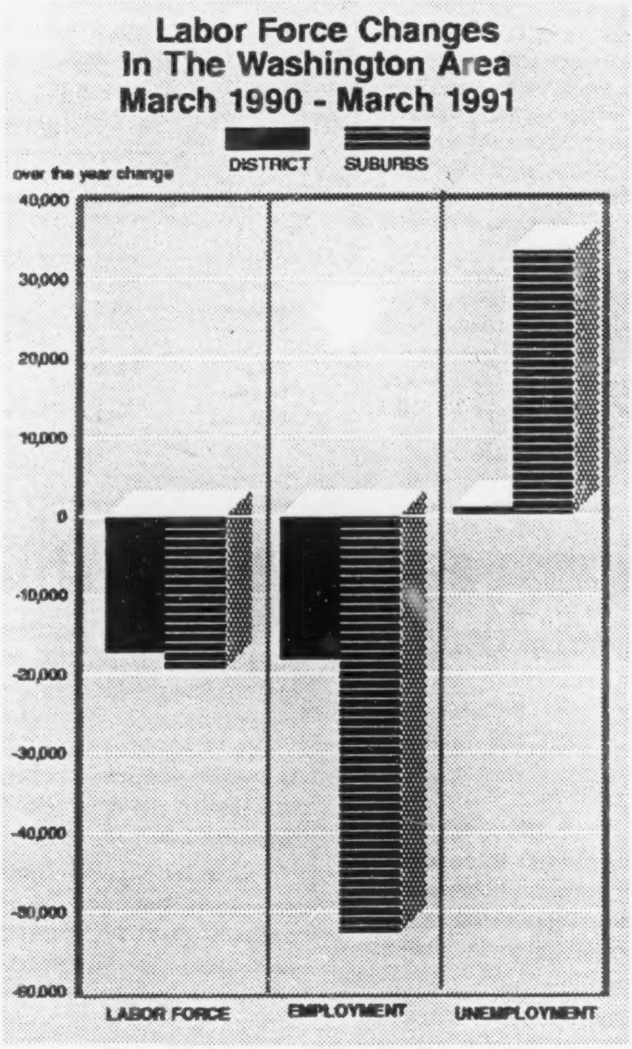
The Washington suburbs accounted for most of these over-the-year changes. For example, about 53 percent of the shrinkage in the Area's labor supply occurred among suburbanites. About 75 percent of the employment decline represents suburbanites who have lost jobs. **Most significantly, almost all the increase in the Area's unemployed workers (97 percent) represents persons living in the suburbs.** Still, the District with about 13 percent of the Area's labor force contains nearly 21 percent of the Area's unemployment. Thus, despite the large and significant increase in unemployment among suburbanites during this past year, the City still contains a disproportionate level of the Washington Area's unemployment.

Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA
March 1991a/

	Mar. b/ 1991	Feb. c/ 1991	Mar. d/ 1990	Feb. d/ 1990	Net Change from Feb. 1991	Net Change from Mar. 1990
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	285,200	283,300	302,500	301,400	1,900	-17,300
Total Employed	265,400	262,400	283,600	282,300	3,000	-18,200
Total Unemployed	19,800	20,900	18,900	19,200	-1,100	900
Unemployment Rate e/	6.9	7.4	6.3	6.4	-0.5	0.6
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,900,200	1,884,100	1,919,500	1,906,000	16,100	-19,300
Total Employed	1,827,500	1,806,600	1,880,200	1,862,500	20,900	-52,700
Total Unemployed	72,700	77,600	39,300	43,400	-4,900	33,400
Unemployment Rate e/	3.8	4.1	2.0	2.3	-0.3	1.8
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,185,400	2,167,400	2,222,000	2,207,400	18,000	-36,600
Total Employed	2,092,900	2,069,000	2,163,800	2,144,800	23,900	-70,900
Total Unemployed	92,500	98,500	58,200	62,600	-6,000	34,300
Unemployment Rate e/	4.2	4.5	2.6	2.8	-0.3	1.6

a/ Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding. b/ Preliminary.
c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions. e/ Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia, the Virginia Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, and Stafford; and the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick, and Calvert.



Labor Force Changes
In The Washington Area
March 1990 - March 1991

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

The number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits in the District of Columbia totaled 14,065 in March 1991, down 1,048 from February and up 4,453 from a year ago. In March 1991, 58 percent of all UI claimants were males. Occupationally, professional, technical and managerial workers accounted for 26 percent of the total workers. This was followed by 23 percent in clerical and sales and 20 percent for service workers. Structural workers accounted for 19 percent of the claimants. The remaining 12 percent was distributed between machine trades, bench work, processing and miscellaneous workers.

The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 10.0 weeks for all claimants in March. Over the month, the duration for males rose from 9.5 weeks to 10.0 weeks, while for females the duration rose from 9.9 weeks to 10.0 weeks. A year ago, the duration was 9.8 weeks for males and 10.0 weeks for females.

Labor Force Distribution
Washington Metropolitan Area
March 1991 & March 1990
(percent)

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
		MARCH 1991	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.1	12.7	21.4
Suburbs	86.9	87.3	78.6
		MARCH 1990	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.6	13.1	32.5
Suburbs	86.4	86.9	67.5

Job Growth

The District

The number of jobs in the District increased by 4,700 for a gain of 0.7 percent between February and March. The private sector was responsible for the growth with primarily seasonal gains in Services (2,900 jobs).

The public sector increased by 1,000 jobs with gains in both Federal Government (700 jobs) and State and Local Government (300 jobs).

Over the year (March 1990 to March 1991), the number of District jobs decreased 0.4 percent for a loss of 2,700 jobs. **The private sector decreased at a rate of 0.7 percent for a loss of 2,800 jobs.** Losses were primarily concentrated in Retail Trade (1,700 jobs), Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,200 jobs) and Construction (900 jobs) while Services, the only job gainer, registered growth of 2,200 jobs.

The public sector gained 100 jobs with growth in State and Local Government (200 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (100 jobs).

The Suburbs

The number of suburban jobs increased by 0.5 percent for a gain of 7,200 jobs between February and March. The private sector was responsible for 88 percent of the growth with gains in Services (5,100 jobs), Trade (1,300 jobs) and Construction (700 jobs). The Maryland suburbs accounted for 55 percent of the increase in Services and Trade and all of the gain in Construction.

The public sector increased by 900 jobs with growth in State and Local Government (1,100 jobs) partially offset by a slight loss in Federal Government (200 jobs). The Maryland suburbs accounted for 82 percent of the growth in State and Local Government while the Virginia suburbs were responsible for the loss in Federal Government.

Over the year (March 1990 to March 1991), suburban jobs declined at a rate of 1.1 percent for a loss of 17,500 jobs. **The Maryland suburbs grew at a rate of 0.4 percent while the Virginia suburbs decreased at a rate of 2.7 percent.**

The private sector, declining at a rate of 1.9 percent, accounted for the loss in suburban jobs with all of the decline in the goods-producing sector (23,600 jobs). Job losses were concentrated in Construction (20,100 jobs), Trade (3,300 jobs), Manufacturing (3,300 jobs)

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Continued from page 6

and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,800 jobs) while the only job gains occured in Services (4,300 jobs) and Transportation and Public Utilities (800 jobs). Eighty-two percent of the Construction loss and all of the decline in Trade occurred in the Virginia suburbs. The Virginia suburbs were also responsible for 52 percent of the loss in Manufacturing and 72 percent of the decline in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate as well as two-thirds of the Services growth while the Maryland suburbs accounted for the growth in Transportation and Public Utilities.

The public sector grew at a rate of 2.0 percent with growth in State and Local Government (9,600 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (3,500 jobs). Fifty-seven percent of the State and Local Government growth was concentrated in the Maryland suburbs while 94 percent of the decline in Federal Government occurred in the Virginia suburbs.

The Area

The Washington Metropolitan Area gained 11,900 jobs between February and March. The private sector accounted for 84 percent of the growth with increases in Services (8,000 jobs), Trade (1,600 jobs) and Construction (700 jobs).

The public sector increased by 0.3 percent with gains in both State and Local Government (1,400 jobs) and Federal Government (500 jobs).

Over the year (March 1990 to March 1991), the Area declined at a rate of 0.9 percent for a loss of 20,200 jobs. The private sector, declining at a rate of 1.6 percent for a loss of 26,400 jobs, was responsible for the Area job loss. Job losses were concentrated in Construction (21,000 jobs), Trade (5,400 jobs), Manufacturing (3,600 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (3,000 jobs) while job growth primarily occurred in Services (6,500 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 1.1 percent with gains in State and Local Government (9,800 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (3,600 jobs).

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a/]
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	Mar.[b/] 1991	Feb.[c/] 1991	Mar.[d/] 1990	Mar.[b/] 1991	Feb.[c/] 1991	Mar.[d/] 1990
TOTAL	**685.9**	**681.2**	**688.6**	**2,214.2**	**2,202.3**	**2,234.4**
Total Private Sector	**409.2**	**405.5**	**412.0**	**1,622.5**	**1,612.5**	**1,648.9**
Total Government	**276.7**	**275.7**	**276.6**	**591.7**	**589.8**	**585.5**
Total Goods Producing	**29.6**	**29.5**	**30.8**	**203.8**	**203.6**	**228.6**
Manufacturing	**15.6**	**15.5**	**15.9**	**84.8**	**85.3**	**88.4**
Total Durables	2.2	2.2	2.3	41.1	41.4	42.8
Stone, Clay, Glass Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.8	2.9	3.4
Electronic & Electric Equip.	N/A	N/A	N/A	18.4	18.5	17.1
All Other Durable	N/A	N/A	N/A	19.9	20.0	22.3
Total Non-Durable	13.4	13.3	13.6	43.7	43.9	45.6
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	4.6	4.6	4.5
Printing & Publishing	12.7	12.6	12.9	33.3	33.3	35.1
All Other Non-Durable	0.4	0.4	0.4	5.8	6.0	6.0
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**1.1**	**1.1**	**1.3**
Construction	**13.9**	**13.9**	**14.8**	**117.9**	**117.2**	**138.9**
Total Service Producing	**656.3**	**651.7**	**657.8**	**2010.4**	**1998.7**	**2005.8**

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a]
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	Mar.b/ 1991	Feb.c 1991	Mar.d/ 1990	Mar.b/ 1991	Feb.c/ 1991	Mar.d/ 1990
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	**23.6**	**23.4**	**24.1**	**107.0**	**106.6**	**106.7**
All Transportation	8.9	8.8	9.2	50.7	50.4	50.4
Railroads	4.1	4.1	4.2	5.2	5.2	5.3
Transportation ex. Railroad	4.8	4.7	5.0	45.5	45.2	45.1
Communications & Public Utilities	14.7	14.6	14.9	56.3	56.2	56.3
Trade	**59.9**	**59.6**	**62.0**	**424.0**	**422.4**	**429.4**
Wholesale	8.2	8.2	8.6	78.6	78.7	78.4
Retail	51.7	51.4	53.4	345.4	343.7	351.0
General Merchandise	N/A	N/A	N/A	35.8	36.4	38.4
Food Stores	N/A	N/A	N/A	49.9	50.0	49.2
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	35.9	36.0	37.5
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	28.7	28.7	28.7
Eating & Drinking Places	27.3	27.0	27.5	113.8	112.3	114.5
All Other Retail	24.4	24.4	25.9	81.3	80.3	82.7
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**33.0**	**32.8**	**34.2**	**128.4**	**128.6**	**131.4**
Finance	15.4	15.3	16.3	59.1	59.3	60.7
Depository Institutions	8.3	8.3	9.2	39.1	39.3	40.5
Other Finance	7.1	7.0	7.1	20.0	20.0	20.2
Insurance	8.1	8.0	8.1	28.6	28.6	28.0
Real Estate	9.5	9.5	9.8	40.7	40.7	42.7
Services	**263.1**	**260.2**	**260.9**	**759.3**	**751.3**	**752.8**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	17.9	17.0	17.4	39.0	38.0	37.7
Personal Services	3.4	3.4	3.6	23.3	23.2	23.7
Business Services	38.4	37.9	39.6	181.8	179.2	181.6
Service to Buildings	13.1	13.0	14.4	N/A	N/A	N/A
Personnel Supply	8.0	7.8	8.6	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	6.0	5.9	5.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Business Services	11.3	11.2	11.1	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	38.4	38.1	38.4	119.5	119.0	117.1
Legal Services	30.4	30.3	29.9	40.9	40.7	40.3
Educational Services	32.8	32.1	31.7	46.8	46.2	45.2
Social Services	13.1	12.9	12.8	37.2	36.9	35.1
Membership Organizations	34.7	34.7	33.7	63.0	62.8	61.3
Engineering/Management Ser.	43.9	43.7	43.6	145.1	144.9	148.0
All Other Services	10.1	10.1	10.2	62.7	60.4	62.8
Government	**276.7**	**275.7**	**276.6**	**591.7**	**589.8**	**585.5**
Federal Government	219.4	218.7	219.5	359.4	358.9	363.0
State & Local Government	57.3	57.0	57.1	232.3	230.9	222.5
State Government	52.5	52.2	52.4	81.5	81.0	79.4
Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	150.8	149.9	143.1
Public Transportation	4.8	4.8	4.7	N/A	N/A	N/A

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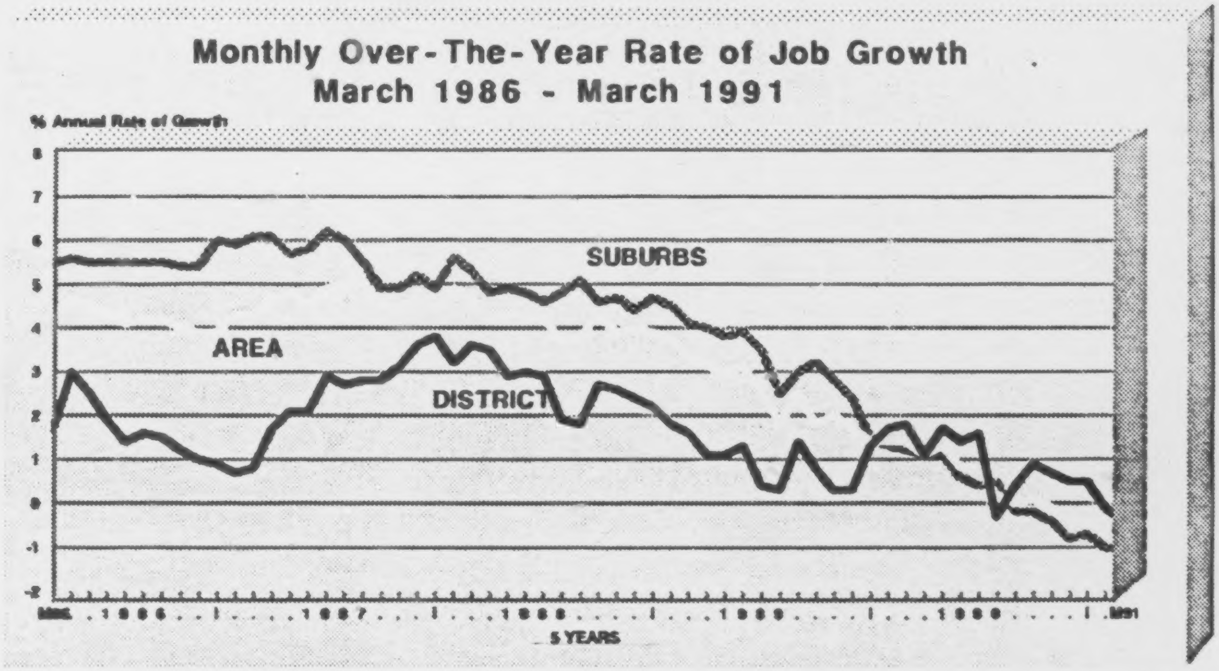
a/ Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. b/ Preliminary.
c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions.

Data includes all full-and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

SOURCE: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Monthly Over-The-Year Rate of Job Growth
March 1986 - March 1991

Area Job Growth Rates

Over the past five years (March 1986 to March 1991), the Washington Area created new jobs at a rate of 3.1 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has declined from a peak of 5.0 percent in August 1987 to a net loss of nine-tenths of a percent in March 1991. **This marked the fifth consecutive month that the Washington Area recorded an over-the-year job loss.** This March's measurement was down from a 1.4 percent increase reported in March 1990.

For the seventh consecutive month, the suburban economy recorded an over-the-year job loss. The March loss represented a job decline of 1.1 percent from a year earlier. This suburban loss was down from the yearly growth of 1.2 percent reported in March 1990. In the District, the number of jobs decreased over the year by four-tenths of a percentage point and represents the second consecutive over-the-year drop. The loss of District jobs this year compares to a growth of 1.8 percent reported in the same month a year ago.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from a peak gain during the past five years of 101,300 new jobs created between July 1986 and July 1987, to a loss of 20,200 jobs between March 1990 and this past March. Over the past year, 17,500 jobs were lost by the suburban economy, while the District lost 2,700 jobs.

The U.S. economy for the second month lost jobs over the year. The U.S. loss was slightly less than in the Washington Area (a 0.7 percent decline for the U.S. economy vs. the 0.9 percent loss for the Washington Area). March marked the sixteenth consecutive month in which the rate of local job creation was below the rate for all of the United States.

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Profile of Job Growth Rates
March 1990 to March 1991

The Area

Average 60 months	3.1%
High, August 1987	5.0%
Low, March 1991	-0.9%
1-year ago	1.4%
Last month	-0.6%
Current month	-0.9%

The Suburbs

Average 60 months	3.7%
High, July 1987	6.2%
Low, March 1991	-1.1%
1-year ago	1.2%
Last month	-0.8%
Current month	-1.1%

The District

Average 60 months	1.7%
High, December 1987	3.8%
Low, March 1991	-0.4%
1-year ago	1.8%
Last month	-0.2%
Current month	-0.4%

Note: Data reflects benchmark revisions for 1989-1990.

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- High quality referrals

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JOB SERVICE Department of Employment Services

Industrial Profile:

Recent Job Losses in the U.S. and the Area: March 1990 to March 1991

The Washington Area has been recording over-the-year job losses for the past four months. The suburbs have been losing jobs for seven months and the District for the past two months. But what about the U.S. economy? This profile reviews local job losses by major industrial segments against recent performance of the U.S. job market.

Earlier studies by the Department examined the relationship of national and local job creation during the downside of national business cycles. There were clear signs that in the Washington Area, the job market had negatively responded to recent national business downturns.[1] It was found that the Washington Area was not recession proof. Most of the cyclical impact in the past three recessions was concentrated in the District. By contrast, the current Area job losses are primarily in the suburbs.

The data used in this analysis are recent monthly estimates from the data series Non-Agricultural Wage and Salary Employment By Place of Work, commonly referred to as "non-farm employment" or "the monthly establishment survey."

Recent National and Local Performance

According to reports from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, total jobs in the U.S. economy have fallen on a seasonally unadjusted basis from 109.3 million in March of 1990 to 108.6 million in March of 1991. This represents a loss of 733,000 jobs or 0.7 percent. March marked the second consecutive monthly job decline in the U.S. economy when measured month to month over the year.

Unlike past recessions, the Washington Area preceded the U.S. economy into negative over-the-year job losses by three months. The suburban part of the Washington Area started to lose jobs 5 months before the U.S. economy. The District proper seems to be on the same downward time track as the U.S. job market.

Relatively speaking, Area job losses of 0.9 percent through March are only slightly more extensive than the U.S. loss of 0.7 percent. Suburban losses, on the other hand, have been relatively more extensive at 1.1 percent of its March 1990 job base. The District has lost the fewest jobs (0.4 percent).

Impact by Industrial Segments

In examining over-the-year changes in major industrial segments of the economy, several clear patterns emerge. First, the construction industry both nationally and locally has experienced the largest relative job losses over the past year. This decline is most apparent in the Washington suburbs where construction employment is down more than 16 percent from March of 1990. For the U.S. industry the comparable figure is about 10 percent.

It should be noted, however, that in the U.S. economy the largest absolute job losses have occurred in Manufacturing. For example, U.S. factories lost 835,000 workers, compared to only 482,000 in construction. In the Washington Area, construction produced both the largest relative loss (15.1 percent) and absolute loss (26,400 jobs). But even in the Washington Area, Manufacturing has lost a relatively large share of its March 1990 job base—(4.4 percent in the Area, 4.6 percent in the suburbs and 1.9 percent in D.C.). The number of lost local manufacturing jobs, are relatively small (3,600 in the Area, 3,300 in the suburbs and 300 in the District).

The second obvious feature in the industrial mix is government. State and Local Government in all jurisdictions is one of the strongest growth industries, producing an over-the-year growth rate in March of 2.2 percent nationally, and 4.4 percent in the Washington Area. Nearly all the local State and Local Government growth has been in the suburbs where governments have added nearly 6 percent more workers to their March 1990 job base. Local Government growth in the District has been only marginal. In spite of this, there has been extensive discussions about future State and Local Government employment cutbacks and retrenchments in this, one of the only industries showing any over-the-year growth.

On the other hand, Federal government agencies already have implemented employment reduction policies. Over the past year, Federal jobs have fallen nationally by 4.6 percent, or in a relative way, at an even steeper rate than the 4.4 percent reduction in the

Continued on page 12

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[1] See: *Area Labor Summary*, "Jobs in the Washington Area During the Downside of Business Cycles," November 1990 and "Washington Area Construction Jobs: 1949-1989" May 1990.

Continued from page 11

manufacturing industries. In the Washington Area, the local suburbs have lost 2.4 percent of their March 1990 Federal employment, while in the District Federal employment remained unchanged. The Federal balance sheet for the Area shows a 1.0 percent decline in jobs during the past year.

The third major feature in the industrial picture is found in the growth industry—Services. This is the industry that produced most of the remarkable growth in both the U.S. and the local economies during the middle and latter parts of the 1980's. While this industry is still creating some new jobs over the year, its growth, especially in the Washington Area, is very anemic—less than 1 percent. Nationally, the Services industry is still producing new jobs at a relatively strong 2.4 percent. The local segment seems to be harder hit than its national counterpart.

Interestingly, the U.S. Finance, Insurance and Real Estate industry has not lost any jobs in the past year. On the other hand, it hasn't produced any jobs either. Locally, it is one of the Area's job losers with an employment decline of over 2 percent, with a 3.5 percent loss in the District and 1.9 percent in the suburbs. These declines in financial jobs reflect excessive local inventories in office space, as well as, the over-extended credit positions of many local developers.

Similarly, Retail Trade is reflecting lost jobs as is typical in a recession when consumer confidence and spending are low. Nationally, retail employment over the year is off 1.2 percent and locally 1.6 percent, with the District's losses measuring 3.5 percent and reflecting the failure of a major department store, as well as, the general weakness of consumer consumption.

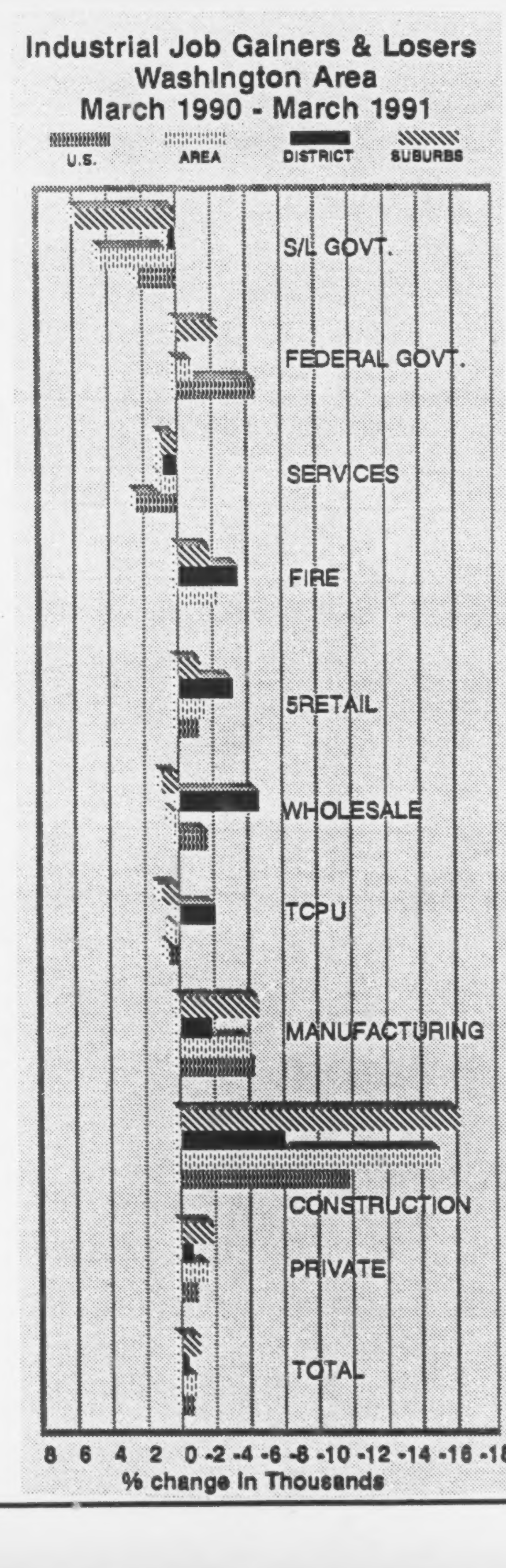
Observations

Now that the U.S. economy has officially been declared in a recession, it must mean the local economy is also "officially" in a recession. In fact using job numbers as a guide, the Area probably preceded the American economy into the downturn this time. The picture of job declines by major industrial segments in both the national and local economy, however, are strikingly similar.

Clearly, problems in the building industries are a key feature of this recession both at the national and local levels, as has been the case in all recessions during the past 40 years. Because of the close relationship between construction and financial markets, the Finance, Insurance and Real Estate industry is also showing employment weaknesses. But unlike in recent past recessions, economic and institutional adjustments in these financial industries may involve fundamental structural changes that could delay a rapid recovery and even produce further job losses.

While most local attention has focused on problems of the Construction and the Finance and Real Estate Industries, the real key to a future local recovery will probably be found in the resumption of strong growth rates in the Services industry. The excessive local office inventories probably will not be absorbed until the Services Industry resumes its growth and begins to fill up the empty office spaces with new workers. In addition, it will be the new jobs in the relatively large Services segment that will draw most of the workers from the unemployment rolls and create the most new jobs for entrants and reentrants into the labor force. These additional Services industry workers will also represent both new consumers and taxpayers, thus refueling consumption in other segments of the economy. On the other hand, if the sluggish Services growth does not improve in the near future, the Area could be in for an extended period of negative economic activity compounded by future declines in public sector jobs.

Continued on page 13



Industrial Job Gainers & Losers
Washington Area
March 1990 - March 1991

Industrial Job Gains & Losses
The United States, The Area, The District & The Suburbs
March 1990 to March 1991*
(in thousands)

	United States		Area		District		Suburbs	
	March 1990	March 1991	March 1990	March 1991	March 1990	March 1991	March 1990	March 1991
TOTAL	109,343.0	108,610.0	2,234.4	2,214.2	688.6	685.9	1,545.8	1,528.3
PRIVATE	90,807.0	89,869.0	1,648.9	1,622.5	412.0	409.2	1,236.9	1,213.3
CONST.	4,906.0	4,424.0	138.9	117.9	14.8	13.9	124.1	104.0
MFG.	19,109.0	18,274.0	88.4	84.8	15.9	15.6	72.5	69.2
TCPU	5,750.0	5,787.0	106.7	107.0	24.1	23.6	82.6	83.4
WHOLESALE	6,326.0	6,220.0	78.4	78.6	8.6	8.2	69.8	70.4
RETAIL	19,361.0	19,131.0	351.0	345.4	53.4	51.7	297.6	293.7
FIRE	6,774.0	6,775.0	131.4	128.4	34.2	33.0	97.2	95.4
SERVICES	27,866.0	28,538.0	752.8	759.3	260.9	263.1	491.9	496.2
FED. GOV.	3,082.0	2,940.0	363.0	359.4	219.5	219.4	143.5	140.0
S/L GOV.	15,454.0	15,801.0	222.5	232.3	57.1	57.3	165.4	175.0

*Preliminary Estimates

SOURCE: Non-Agricultural Wage & Salary Employment. The Department of Employment Services, The Virginia Employment Commission, The Maryland Department of Economic & Employment Development and The Bureau of Labor Statistics.

How You As An Employer Can Get Involved In SUMMERWORKS '91

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HIRE A SUMMER WORKER

SUMMERWORKS '91 will operate from July 1-August 9, 1991. Administered by the Department of Employment Services, the six-week program will assign a youth to your business based upon the youth's individual needs and career interest. Likewise, careful attention will be given to pre-employment counseling and matching the participant's interests with the needs of your organization. Up to three candidates will be referred to you from which you make your selection(s). Once the interviews are completed, you may then notify the Department's Youth Office of your selection.

The youth are paid the minimum wage of $4.25 an hour or more, depending on the skills required in the job assignment.

To learn more about hiring opportunities this summer, call the Office of Youth Employment at (202) 639-1186/7 or (202) 639-1459.

OPTION II:
MAKE A MONETARY CONTRIBUTION

For companies unable to hire because the nature of the work performed may be unsuited for young people or restricted by law, monetary donations may be contributed to enable a business to sponsor a teenager's summer experience. In this category, a corporate donation will sponsor a young person in one of the program's Innovative Projects, a training component specially designed for the 14 and 15-year old population. Here, the young person engages in a 6-week program of educational enrichment, basic education, and career exploration aimed at preparing this largely unskilled age group for the world of work. Based upon the individual need or career interest, the young person may choose from a wide selection of projects ranging from math and computer science, the visual and performing arts, to English As a Second Language. The special projects are conducted throughout the city under contractual agreements with community-based non-profit organizations and with local universities.

The cost to sponsor a young person in a 6-week, 20-hour per week Innovative Project is $549. To mail your contribution to sponsor a youth this summer, write to:

SUMMERWORKS '91
c/o D.C. Private Industry Council
1129 20th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

The check or money order should be made payable to: SUMMERWORKS '91

The D.C. Private Industry Council (PIC) is a 501c(3) non-profit corporation. Donations to the PIC are generally tax deductible, however corporations should consult their accountants for further information regarding their tax liability.

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a limited wage, and
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Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area

In February 1991, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 271 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The Washington Area's February jobless rate was up 0.1 percentage point to 4.5 percent. This was the thirty-third lowest jobless rate of the 271 areas reporting. A year ago, the Washington Area rate was 2.8 percent, a 1.7 percentage points rise.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 4.5 percent was the fourth lowest of all the major metropolitan areas.

In February, the Baltimore Area, only 35 miles north of Washington, reported a 0.6 percentage point rise in its jobless rate, up from 6.4 to 7.0 percent. A year ago, the Baltimore rate was 4.3 percent, up 2.7 percentage points over the year. This makes the Baltimore area the thirty-fifth highest rate among the 40 selected areas tracked in the Area Labor Summary.

For the second consecutive month, the Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, posted a 0.6 percentage point increase in its jobless rate. In February the rate was 5.5 percent. A year ago, the rate was 3.9 percent. Their neighbor, the Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport area had a 6.7 percent jobless rate in February compared to 4.5 last year.

Of the 40 selected areas, jobless rates between 4.0 percent and 4.9 percent were reported in 8 other large metropolitan areas. The lowest was recorded in Tucson at 3.7 percent followed by San Francisco and Phoenix both at 4.4 percent. As stated above, the District of Columbia was at 4.5 percent, Portland at 4.7 percent, Seattle at 4.8 percent and Milwaukee, Nashville and Houston all at 4.9 percent.

There were 13 large metropolitan areas with rates between 5.0 and 5.9 percent. There also were 12 large metropolitan areas with rates between 6.0 and 6.9 percent, 3 large metropolitan areas with rates between 7.0 and 7.9 percent, 2 large metropolitan areas with rates between 8.0 and 8.9 percent. Detroit at 10.2 percent was the only major metropolitan area with a double digit jobless rate.

Of the 271 metropolitan areas for which February unemployment data are available, 136 had over-the-year increases of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rates, while only 16 had decreases of that magnitude. A total of 62 areas had February 1991 rates of 8 percent or higher, while 61 had rates of 5 percent or below.

Continued on page 17

Unemployment Rates in Selected Statistical Areas

MSA	February 1991*	February 1990
1. Tucson, AR	3.7	3.8
2. San Francisco, CA	4.4	3.0
3. Phoenix, AR	4.4	3.8
4. Washington, D.C.	**4.5**	**2.8**
5. Portland, OR	4.7	4.3
6. Seattle, WA	4.8	4.2
7. Milwaukee, WI	4.9	3.8
8. Nashville, TN	4.9	3.8
9. Houston, TX	4.9	5.6
10. Columbus, OH	5.2	5.2
11. New Orleans, LA	5.2	6.4
12. Memphis, TN	5.2	4.5
13. Hartford, CT	5.3	4.6
14. Dallas, TX	5.3	5.4
15. Louisville, KY	5.4	5.7
16. Minneapolis-St. Louis, MN	5.5	3.7
17. Richmond-Petersburg, VA	5.5	3.9
18. Denver, CO	5.5	5.7
19. Oakland, CA	5.5	3.7
20. Indianapolis, IN	5.6	4.3
21. Chicago, IL	5.8	6.0
22. Oklahoma City, OK	5.8	5.3
23. Montgomery, AL	6.1	6.1
24. Kansas City, MO	6.3	5.0
25. San Diego, CA	6.3	3.7
26. Cleveland, OH	6.4	5.3
27. Atlanta, GA	6.5	4.6
28. Philadelphia, PA	6.5	4.9
29. Dayton, OH	6.7	6.0
30. Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport, VA	6.7	4.5
31. Newark, NJ	6.8	5.1
32. Pittsburgh, PA	6.9	6.1
33. New York, NY	6.9	6.0
34. St. Louis, MO	6.9	6.1
35. Baltimore, MD	7.0	4.3
36. Buffalo, NY	7.1	5.6
37. Los Angeles, CA	7.4	5.5
38. Miami, FL	8.2	6.5
39. Boston, MA	8.2	4.7
40. Detroit, MI	10.2	7.8

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

Continued from page 16

States

When the District of Columbia (with a February unemployment rate of 7.4 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the seventeenth highest jobless rate in the Country. This was six notches below the position held in January.

Maryland's rate at 6.5 percent was up from 6.1 percent recorded in January. Maryland's rate has been growing increasingly over the last year. This month, Maryland ranked thirty-fifth, same as last month. A year ago, Maryland's rate was 3.9 percent, up 2.6 percentage points over the year.

On the other hand, Virginia's rate also was at 6.5 percent up from the 5.8 percent posted in January. Virginia's rate seems to be on the upswing. In January, Virginia had one of the twelve lowest jobless rates and ranked fortieth among the 51 jurisdictions. In February, it ranked thirty-sixth. A year ago, Virginia's jobless rate was 4.4 percent, up 2.1 percentage points over the year.

Twenty-nine states and the District of Columbia reported over-the-year increases in their unemployment rate of 1 percentage point or more. The largest increases—more than 3 percentage points—took place in three New England states where the unemployment rate rose 4.1 points in Massachusetts and by 3.4 points in both Maine and Vermont. Other states with increases of 2 percentage points or more included California, Michigan and four Atlantic states—Delaware, Georgia, Maryland and Virginia. No state reported an unemployment rate decrease of 1 percentage point or more.

Seven states had February 1991 unemployment rates of 8 percent or above, compared with three states a year earlier. West Virginia, at 10.5 percent, and Michigan, at 10.2 percent, had the highest unemployment rates, followed by Massachusetts (9.9 percent), Mississippi (8.9 percent), and Alaska, Maine, and Rhode Island (all 8.8 percent). Only 5 states had jobless rates of 5 percent or below in February 1991, compared with 16 a year earlier. Hawaii (2.5 percent) and Nebraska (2.8 percent) continued to have the lowest rates, as they had since July 1989.

Cities

In comparison with the 26 other selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with a February preliminary rate of 7.4 percent) held the sixteenth position. This was two notches below the January position when it was fourteenth. In February, the average unemployment rate for the 27 cities was 7.4 percent, compared to 6.3 percent last February.

Only twelve cities reported jobless rates at or below 6 percent, with the lowest posted in Phoenix at 4.6 percent, followed by Seattle at 4.9 percent and San Francisco at 5.0 percent.

Baltimore's rate rose 0.3 percentage point over the month to 9.4 percent. Baltimore held the twenty-third position among the 27 selected cities. Baltimore's February 1991 rate was 2.4 percentage points higher than the February 1990 rate of 7.0 percent.

This was the sixth consecutive month that Newark was in the double digit column. Newark held the twenty-seventh position in December and January, however, in February it fell to the twenty-sixth position. Newark's rate at 12.7 percent was up 2.5 percent over the year.

Detroit's jobless rate at 14.6 percent in February was up two full percentage points over the month. Detroit recorded the second highest rate of the 27 cities in December and January. However, in February it took over the twenty-seventh position. Detroit's rate was up a significant 3.5 percentage points over the year.

Of the 27 selected central cities, only six reported decreases in joblessness and twenty reported increases in joblessness over the year. The largest over-the-year decrease was the 1.0 percentage point posted in New Orleans. There were five cities with over-the-year increases in joblessness of two or more percentage points. The largest being recorded in Boston 3.7 percent, Detroit 3.5 percent, Miami 3.0 percent, Newark 2.5 percent and Baltimore 2.4 percent. Pittsburgh's rate at 5.6 percent was unchanged over the year.

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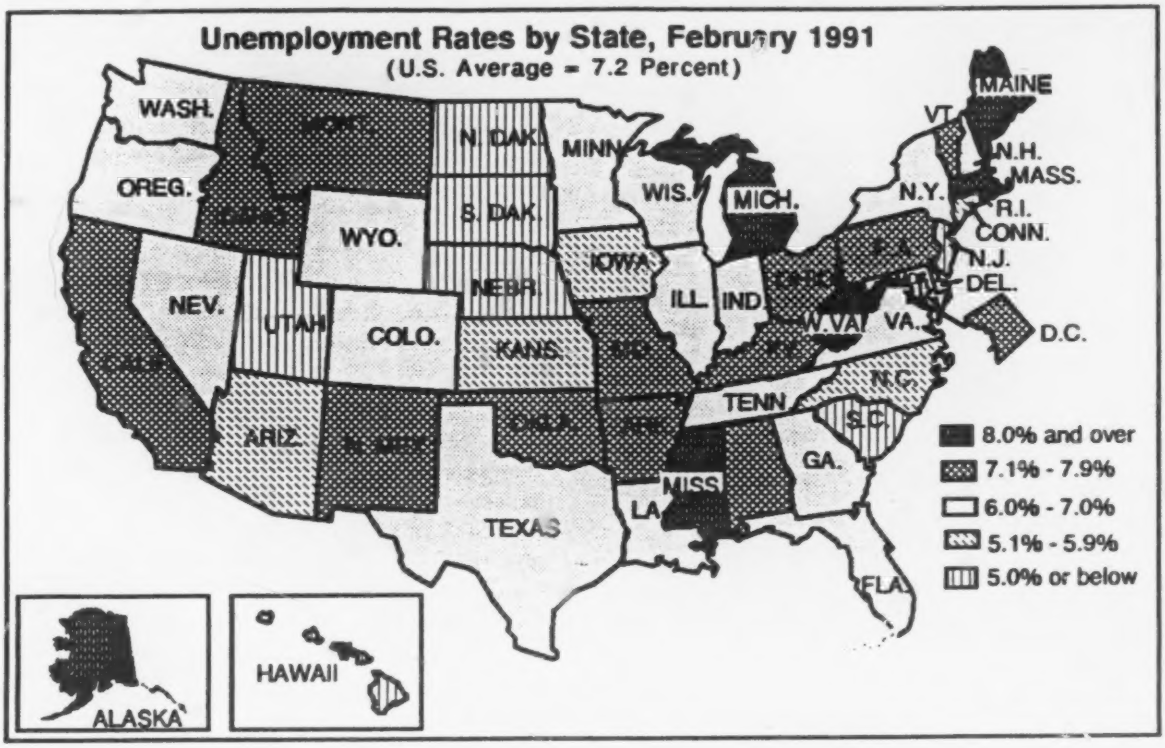


Unemployment Rates by State, February 1991

(U.S. Average = 7.2 Percent)

WASH.
OREG.
IDAHO
MONT.
N. DAK.
S. DAK.
MINN.
WIS.
MICH.
N.Y.
VT.
MAINE
N.H.
MASS.
R.I.
CONN.
N.J.
DEL.
D.C.
PA.
OHIO
IND.
ILL.
IOWA
NEBR.
WYO.
NEV.
UTAH
COLO.
CALIF.
KANS.
MO.
KY.
W.VA.
VA.
N.C.
TENN.
S.C.
ARK.
OKLA.
ARIZ.
N. MEX.
TEXAS
LA.
MISS.
ALA.
GA.
FLA.
ALASKA
HAWAII
8.0% and over
7.1% - 7.9%
6.0% - 7.0%
5.1% - 5.9%
5.0% or below

Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities

	February	
	1991*	1990
1. Phoenix, AR	4.6	4.1
2. Seattle, WA	4.9	4.1
3. San Francisco, CA	5.0	3.5
4. New Orleans, LA	5.1	6.1
5. Memphis, TN	5.2	4.5
6. Columbus, OH	5.3	5.0
7. Houston, TX	5.3	5.9
8. Denver, CO	5.5	5.6
9. Pittsburgh, PA	5.6	5.6
10. Milwaukee, WI	6.0	4.9
11. Dallas, TX	6.0	6.2
12. Indianapolis, IN	6.0	4.6
13. San Diego, CA	6.3	3.8
14. Chicago, IL	6.9	7.5
15. New York, NY	7.3	6.5
16. District of Columbia	**7.4**	**6.4**
17. Philadelphia, PA	7.8	6.2
18. Los Angeles, CA	8.2	6.2
19. St. Louis, MO	8.2	8.1
20. Atlanta, GA	8.5	6.4
21 Boston, MA	8.6	4.9
22. Hartford, CT	9.1	9.8
23. Baltimore, MD	9.4	7.0
24. Cleveland, OH	9.8	8.1
25. Miami, FL	10.1	8.1
26. Newark, NJ	12.7	10.2
27. Detroit, MI	14.6	11.1

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

Unemployment Insurance Activities—March 1991

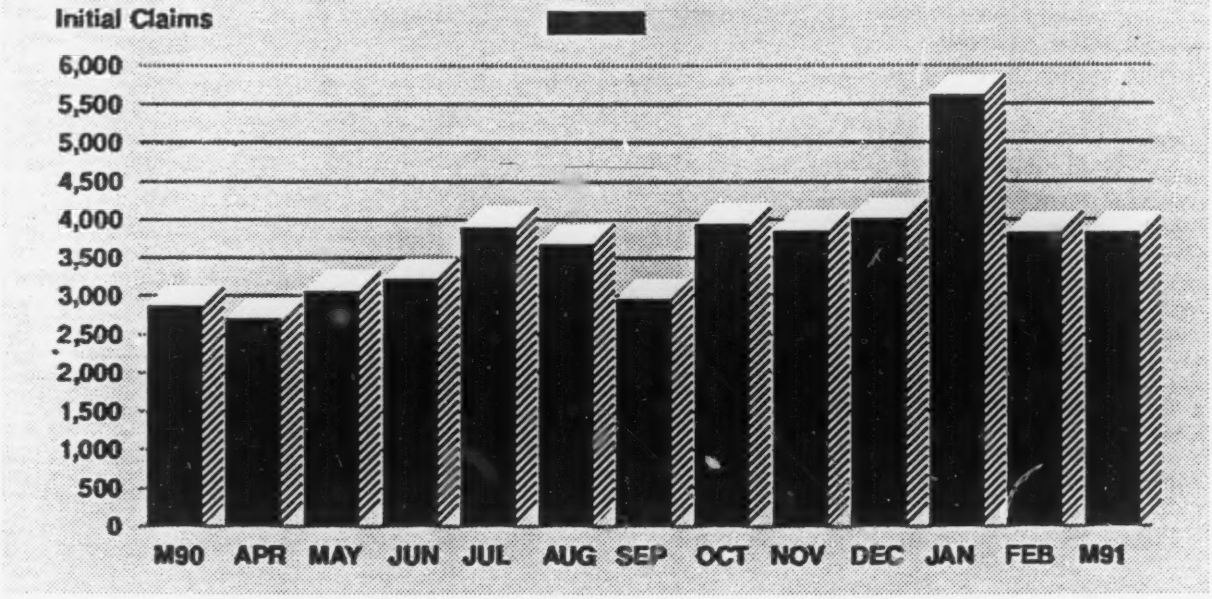
In March 1991, new claims for unemployment compensation benefits totalled 3,820 from former workers in the city and others who use our services in the national network of unemployment compensation systems. The March level of initial claims dropped only slightly (0.2 of a percent) below the workload in February. Compared to March of 1990, the current month's claims increased 33 percent.

The number of weeks claimed for unemployment compensation during March amounted to 53,640, while the number actually compensated totalled 53,820. These levels were 5 and 6 percent, respectively, above last month, but 48 and 53 percent above the same month last year. These workload figures compared to last year are an indication of the downturn of the economy at this time compared to last year.

As expected, the outlay for benefits rose from last month—somewhat commensurate with the weeks compensated for benefits—since the average weekly payout did not rise significantly. The outlay for benefits in March was $11.5 million compared to $10.9 million last month.

The workload activity in the first quarter of 1991 rose from the previous quarter. Initial claims and weeks compensated rose 12 and 25 percent, respectively. Along with the workload activity, outlay was on the upswing, rising from $27.3 million in the fourth quarter of 1990 to $34.6 million in the first quarter of 1991. The quarterly increase in workload and benefit payout is an indication of the continued slowdown in the economic activity of the area. Similarly, the comparison of the first quarters of 1990 and 1991, when the relative increase generally double, is an indication of the transition from a "normal" to a "recessionary" economy.

Initial Claims for Unemployment Compensation
District of Columbia
March 1990 - March 1991



Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
March 1991

	Mar. 1991	Feb. 1991	Mar. 1990	% Change From Feb. 1991	% Change From Mar. 1990
State UI Program[a]					
Initial Claims Taken	3,746	3,724	2,734	+0.6	+37.0
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	50,894	48,460	34,219	+5.0	+48.7
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	51,007	47,979	33,051	+6.3	+54.3
Total Benefits Paid	$10,895,159	$10,195,478	$6,623,602	+6.9	+64.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$213.60	$212.50	$200.41	+0.5	+6.6
Number of First Payments	2,853	2,954	1,662	-3.4	+71.7
Number of Final Payments	1,249	1,176	766	+6.2	+63.1
Total Beneficiaries	14,773	14,102	9,231	+4.8	+60.0
Federal Program[b]					
Initial Claims Taken	48	76	87	-36.8	-44.8
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	2,427	2,456	1,899	-1.2	+27.8
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,586	2,609	1,990	-0.9	+29.9
Total Benefits Paid	$590,522	$607,025	$455,024	-2.7	+29.8
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$228.35	$232.67	$228.66	-1.9	-0.1
Number of First Payments	101	135	91	-25.2	+11.0
Number of Final Payments	64	59	76	+8.5	-15.8
Total Beneficiaries	688	713	546	-3.5	+26.0
Ex-Servicepersons Program[c]					
Initial Claims Taken	25	28	47	-10.7	-46.8
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	321	304	236	+5.6	+36.0
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	233	242	168	-3.7	+38.7
Total Benefits Paid	$49,355	$50,053	$33,569	-1.4	+47.0
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$211.82	$206.83	$199.82	+2.4	+6.0
Number of First Payments	23	16	20	+43.8	+15.0
Number of Final Payments	17	14	6	+21.4	+183.3
Total Beneficiaries	78	76	58	+2.6	+34.5
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	3,819	3,828	2,868	-0.2	+33.2
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	53,642	51,220	36,354	+4.7	+47.6
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	53,826	50,830	35,209	+5.9	+52.9
Total Benefits Paid	$11,535,036	$10,852,556	$7,112,195	+6.3	+62.2
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$214.30	$213.51	$202.00	+0.4	+6.1
Number of First Payments	2,977	3,105	1,773	-4.1	+67.9
Number of Final Payments	1,330	1,249	848	+6.5	+56.8
Total Beneficiaries	15,539	14,891	9,835	+4.4	+58.0

a/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX)

b/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation of Ex-Serviceperson (UCX).

c/ No joint claims

Unemployment Insurance Activities
Selecteds Quarters, 1990 and 1991
District of Columbia

	1st Qtr. 1990	4th Qtr. 1990	1st Qtr. 1991	Percent Change From 1st Qtr. 1990	Percent Change From 4th Qtr. 1990
Initial Claims	9,887	11,788	13,256	+34.1	+12.4
Weeks Compensated	108,514	129,270	161,704	+49.0	+25.1
Total Benefits Outlay	$21,826,953	$27,317,978	$34,551,215	+58.3	+26.5
Average Weekly Benefits	$201.14	$211.32	$213.67	+6.2	+1.1

The Washington, D.C. Area Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area rose 0.1 percent during the 2 months ended in March, to a level of 139.3 (1982-84=100). **For the 12-month period ended in March, the CPI-U rose 4.1 percent.** The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) also rose 0.1 percent from January to March. The March level of 137.9 (1982-84=100) was 3.8 percent higher than the CPI-W index in March 1990.

The 0.1 percent increase in the CPI-U from January to March follows an increase of 0.5 percent in the preceding 2-month period. The slowdown largely reflects a sharp decline in energy costs, which declined 7.4 percent from January to March compared to a decline of 3.3 percent in the preceding 2-month period. However, this decline was offset by increased costs for housing, food, entertainment, and medical care. Excluding energy, the CPI-U rose 0.6 percent from January to March compared with an increase of 0.8 percent in the preceding 2-month period.

Comparing the local CPI-U with the U.S. city average, over the January-March period, the acceleration was just about even. The prices of goods and services tended to increase more rapidly locally than nationally in food and beverages, entertainment and energy. On the other hand, prices of goods and services tended to increase more rapidly nationally than locally only in one category—apparel and upkeep. Price increase changes were just about even in housing, transportation, medical care, and other goods and services.

Over the year, the local index rose 4.1 percent, while the national index rose 4.9 percent, 0.8 percent higher nationally. The prices of goods and services tended to increase more rapidly nationally than locally in food and beverage and housing, apparel and upkeep, and energy. On the other hand, prices of goods and services tended to increase more rapidly locally than nationally in transportation, medical care, and entertainment. Price increases were just about even in other goods and services.

Washington, D.C.
Area Consumer Price Index
(All Urban Consumers—CPI-U)a/

	March 1991	Percent Change 2 months Ago	Percent Change Year Ago
ALL Items			
U.S.	135.0	+0.3	+4.9
Washington Area	139.3	+0.1	+4.1
Expenditure Category			
Food & Beverage	137.3	+1.0	+3.0
Housing	138.9	+0.5	+3.0
Apparel & Upkeep	138.8	-0.1	-2.2
Transportation	123.9	-2.7	+5.2
Medical Care	175.3	+1.3	+11.0
Entertainment	140.7	+2.6	+7.3
Other Goods & Services	175.8	+0.7	+8.3
Special Index:			
Energyb/	97.4	+0.8	-7.4

a/ 1982-84=100, except as noted.

b/ June 1978=100.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, table prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff.

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for March 1991 increased $10.36, Average Weekly Hours remained unchanged and Average Hourly Earnings rose 27 cents.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Stone, Clay and Glass Products' hourly earnings rose 37 cents due to piece work or higher incentive p At the same time, weekly earnings and weekly hours dropped $1.69 and 1.2 hours, respectively, due to a shorter scheduled workweek. Electric Machinery, Equipment and Supplies also had a shorter workweek which caused weekly earnings to drop $6.20 and weekly hours to drop 1.4 hours, as hourly earnings dropped 12 cents.

In the Non-Durable Goods Sector, Printing and Publishing had a longer scheduled workweek. Weekly earnings increased $26.75, weekly hours increased 1.7 hours and hourly earnings rose 4 cents. Other Non-Durable Goods' shorter workweek was the reason weekly earnings decreased $10.70 and weekly hours dropped 1.5 hours.

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
March 1991

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Mar. 1991	Feb. 1991	Mar. 1990	Mar. 1991	Feb. 1991	Mar. 1990	Mar. 1991	Feb. 1991	Mar. 1990
Total Manufacturing	503.42	493.06	489.46	38.4	38.4	39.6	13.11	12.84	12.36
Durable Goods	524.12	523.98	509.44	41.4	42.6	43.1	12.66	12.30	11.82
Stone Clay & Glass Products	490.44	492.13	547.80	40.2	41.6	49.8	12.20	11.83	11.00
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	495.87	502.07	458.05	41.6	41.7	42.1	11.92	12.04	10.88
Other Durable Goods	543.30	538.75	515.79	41.6	43.1	41.9	13.06	12.50	12.31
Non-Durable Goods	487.71	469.57	473.25	36.1	35.2	36.8	13.51	13.34	12.86
Food & Kindred Products	486.10	477.30	448.69	41.3	40.9	41.7	11.77	11.67	10.76
Printing & Publishing	523.25	496.50	492.80	35.0	33.3	35.0	14.95	14.91	14.08
Other Non-Durable Goods	367.58	378.28	404.21	37.7	39.2	41.8	9.75	9.65	9.67

Total Production Workers	Mar 1991	Feb. 1991	Mar. 1990
	38[illegible]	38,200	39,700

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Department of Employment Services
Maria Borrero, Acting Director

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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR APRIL 1991 JUNE 1991

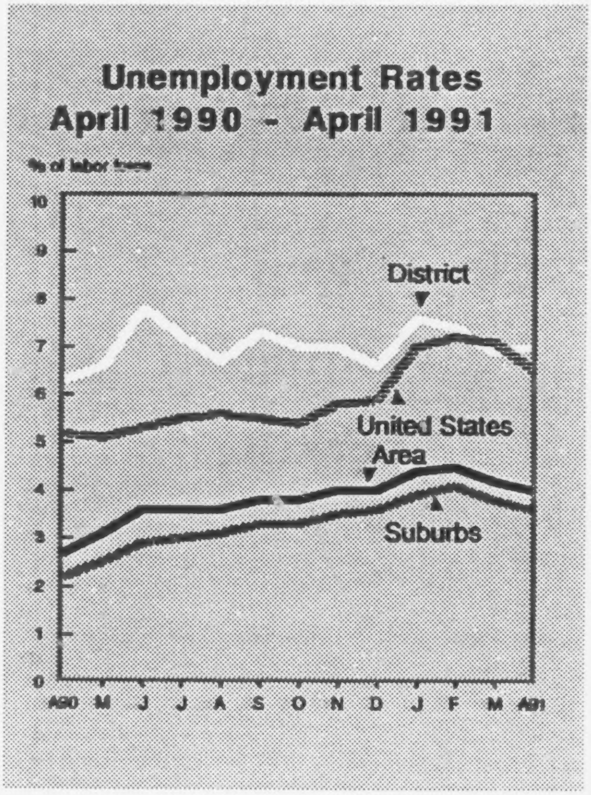
Area Unemployment Rate Falls for 2nd Month

Job Loss Stabilizes Over the Year

Labor Force

During April, only marginal changes were recorded in the local labor market. However, there were some encouraging signs that the recessionary declines may be easing. For the second consecutive month, unemployment rates in the Washington Metropolitan Area and its suburbs recorded small declines. The Area's rate dropped from 4.2 percent in March to 4.0 percent in April, while the suburban rate fell from 3.8 percent to 3.6 percent. The District's unemployment rate rose marginally, however, from 6.9 percent to 7.0 percent. Over the year comparisons continued to clearly demonstrate the negative effects of the recession. During the past year, the suburban unemployment rate rose a significant 1.6 percentage points, while the Area' s rate added 1.5 percentage points and the District's rate grew by 0.7 of a point.

Seasonally unadjusted unemployment among civilian workers across the United States in April measured 6.5 percent, down substantially from 7.1 percent in March. Over the year, the U.S. rate climbed 1.3 percentage points.


Unemployment Rates
April 1990 - April 1991

Continued on page 3

Government of the
District of Columbia
Sharon Pratt Dixon
Mayor

JOB SERVICE

Department of
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Maria Borrero
Director

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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR APRIL 1991 JUNE 1991

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The *Area Labor Summary* is published monthly by the D.C. Department of Employment Services, 500 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The Labor Market Information and Research Staff (Richard Groner, Chief) prepares the *Summary*. The following staff members have contributed to the publication and development of data herein: Charles Roeslin, Rufus Daniels, Eileen Dent, Nancy Anderson-Grant, Elsie Taylor, and Gwendolyn Thompson, and administrative support was provided by Robin McDonald.

Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

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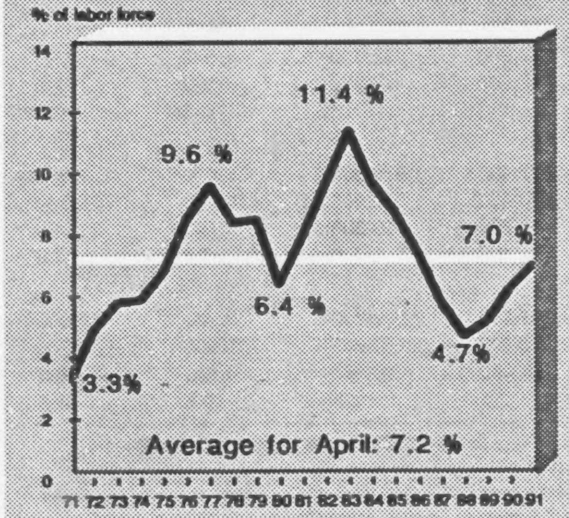
The District

During April there was little movement in the District's labor statistics. Local employers terminated 1,500 District residents from their jobs, while the same number of workers left the labor force. As a result, the jobless rolls decreased by just 100 workers. These changes, however, were sufficient to push the rate up a tenth of a percent. The April rate increase was rather unusual. Over the past 14 years, the District's April rate fell 11 times, it remained unchanged once, and rose only twice including this year. Thus, this April's upward change did not reflect the expected downward seasonal pattern of most past years.

The true measurement of the current status of the labor market continues to be the over-the-year changes in the labor force, employment and unemployment. During the past year, the supply of District workers fell by 13,000, a decline of 4.4 percent. This decline of workers in the labor force reflects an almost equal reduction of 13,900 (5 percent) in residents holding jobs. The net effect was a 1,000-person increase in the unemployment rolls, an over-the-year increase of 5.3 percent. Thus, the major impact of the recession in the District appears to be primarily a decline in labor force participation, rather than an increase in unemployment. Nevertheless, the District's unemployment rate increased over the year a significant 0.7 of a percentage point.

District Unemployment Rates In the Month of April 1971 - 1991



At 7.0 percent, the rate represents the highest April unemployment rate in the past 5 years. The rate is now approaching the long-term 7.2 percent 20-year average for the month of April. However, the rate is still substantially below the record high of 11.4 percent set in April 1983.

The Area and Suburbs

In April, local employers hired more suburbanites than those entering the labor force. The monthly employment expansion reduced the suburban unemployment rolls and thereby the unemployment rate. Between

Continued on page 4

Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C. MSA by City and County

	Apr.a/ 1991	Mar.b/ 1991	Apr.b/ 1990
1. **District of Columbia**	**7.0**	**6.9**	**6.3**
2. Calvert County	6.7	7.3	3.2
3. Manassas City	6.1	7.3	2.0
4. Frederick County	6.0	6.9	3.0
5. Stafford County	5.8	6.7	2.8
6. Prince Georges County	4.4	4.4	3.0
7. Charles County	4.3	4.8	2.3
8. Alexandria City	4.0	4.2	2.4
9. Prince William County	4.0	4.7	2.0
10. Manassas Park City	3.6	3.8	2.2
11. Loudoun County	3.4	3.8	1.3
12. Montgomery County	3.0	3.1	2.0
13. Arlington County	3.0	3.1	1.8
14. Falls Church City	2.8	3.0	1.3
15. Fairfax County	2.7	3.0	1.7
16. Fairfax City	1.7	2.1	1.6

a/ Preliminary. b/ Revised.
SOURCE: The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Continued from page 3

March and April, 5,400 suburbanites joined the labor force and 10,100 found jobs. Consequently, 4,700 unemployed workers were drawn from the jobless rolls. This was the second consecutive monthly decline in the suburban rate.

If viewed over the year, a much different picture emerges. Between April 1990 and April 1991, the size of the suburban labor supply remained virtually unchanged. At the same time, however, 32,000 suburbanites lost their jobs. This represents an employment decrease of nearly 2 percent. Unlike in the District, suburban job losers remained in the labor force and these jobless people were counted among April's unemployed. Over the year, unemployment in the suburbs has increased by 84 percent. This unusually large increase in joblessness pushed the suburban unemployment rate up 1.6 percentage points. However, at only 3.6 percent of the labor force, the unemployment rate is very low for a recessionary period.

When April labor market activities in the District and the suburbs were combined, the results produced only small changes in April's labor statistics for the Washington Area. Only 3,900 new workers joined the labor force of nearly 2.2 million people. In April, employers hired 8,600 more workers, 4,800 of whom came from the unemployment pool. This monthly activity produced the two tenths of percent decline in the rate from March to April.

Over the year changes were more dramatic than the monthly changes. Persons living in the Washington Area lost 46,200 jobs last year. Of these job losers, 14,000 left the labor market while the other 32,200 joined the ranks of the unemployed. This jobless increase represents nearly a 58 percent expansion in the total number of unemployed Area residents. Interestingly, nearly 97 percent of the increase in Area unemployment represents persons living in the suburbs. These changes pushed the Area's unemployment rate up from 2.5 percent last April to 4.0 percent this April. This represents the highest April unemployment rate in the Washington Area in seven years. Despite the increase this past year, the Washington Area continues to record one of the lowest unemployment rates among major metropolitan areas across the nation.

While the decline of the unemployment rate in the Washington Area for the past two months is encouraging, the expansion in employment so far this spring has not been particularly strong. A sustained turnaround in the current recessionary trends in the labor market will require much higher levels of hiring over the next several months.

Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA
April 1991a/

	Apr.b/ 1991	Mar.c/ 1991	Apr.d/ 1990	Mar.d/ 1990	Net Change from Mar. 1991	Net Change from Apr. 1990
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	283,700	285,200	296,700	302,500	-1,500	-13,000
Total Employed	264,000	265,500	277,900	283,600	-1,500	-13,900
Total Unemployed	19,700	19,800	18,700	18,900	-100	1,000
Unemployment Rate e/	7.0	6.9	6.3	6.3	0.1	0.7
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,906,500	1,901,100	1,907,500	1,919,500	5,400	-1,000
Total Employed	1,838,100	1,828,000	1,870,400	1,880,200	10,100	-32,300
Total Unemployed	68,400	73,100	37,200	39,300	-4,700	31,200
Unemployment Rate e/	3.6	3.8	2.0	2.0	-0.2	1.6
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,190,200	2,186,300	2,204,200	2,222,000	3,900	-14,000
Total Employed	2,102,100	2,093,500	2,148,300	2,163,800	8,600	-46,200
Total Unemployed	88,100	92,900	55,900	58,200	-4,800	32,200
Unemployment Rate e/	4.0	4.2	2.5	2.6	-0.2	1.5

a/ Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding. b/ Preliminary. c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions. e/ Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia, the Virginia Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, and Stafford; and the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick, and Calvert.

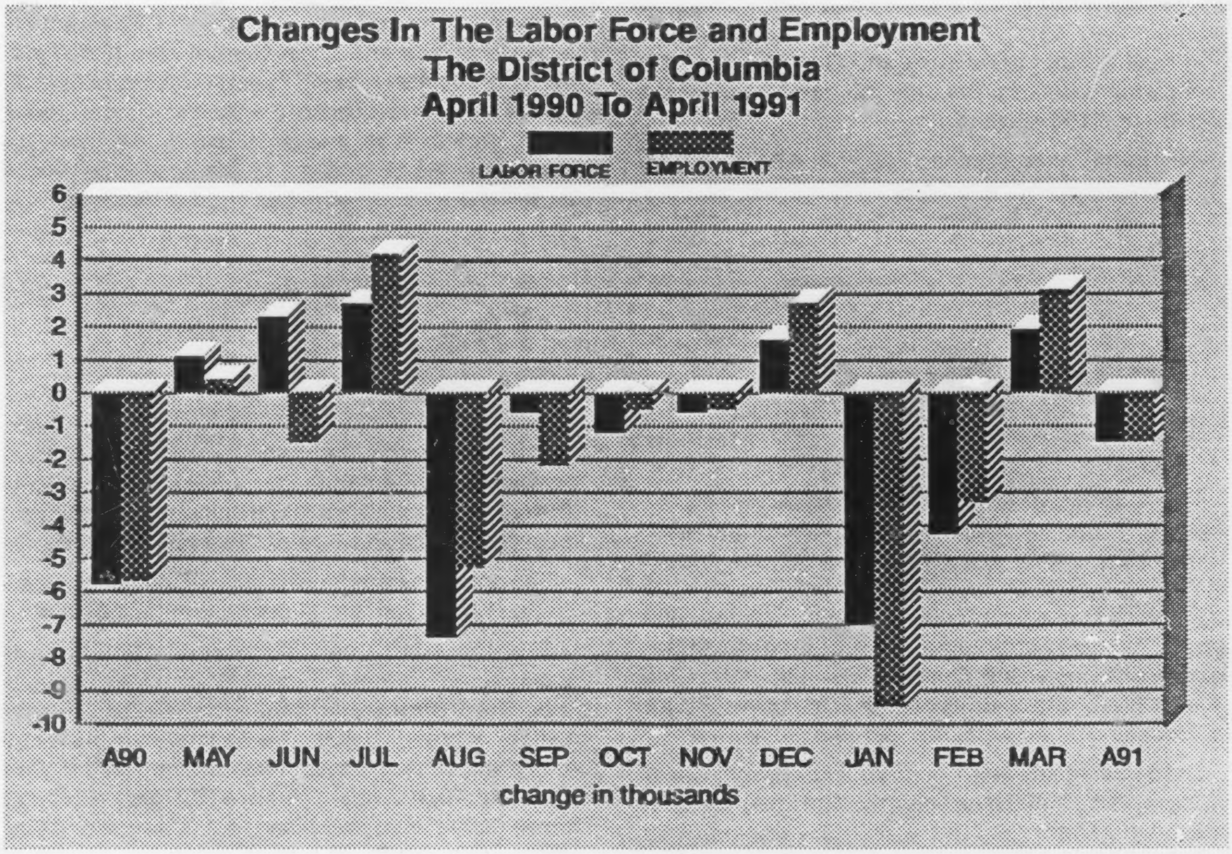
Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

The number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits in the District of Columbia totaled 13,722 in April 1991, down 1,627 from March and up 4,405 from a year ago. In April 1991, 58 percent of all UI claimants were males. Occupationally, professional, technical and managerial workers accounted for 27 percent of the total workers. This was followed by 23 percent in clerical and sales and 19 percent each for service and structural workers. The remaining 12 percent was distributed between machine trades, bench work, processing and miscellaneous workers.

The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 10.3 weeks for all claimants in April. Over the month, the duration for males rose from 9.9 weeks to 10.4 weeks, while for females the duration rose from 9.9 weeks to 10.0 weeks. A year ago, the duration was 10.0 weeks for males and 10.3 weeks for females.

Labor Force Distribution Washington Metropolitan Area April 1991 & April 1990 (percent)

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
		APRIL 1991	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.0	12.6	22.4
Suburbs	87.0	87.4	77.6
		APRIL 1990	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.5	12.9	33.5
Suburbs	86.5	87.1	66.5


Changes In The Labor Force and Employment The District of Columbia April 1990 To April 1991

Job Growth

The District

The number of jobs in the District decreased by 2,100 for a loss of 0.3 percent between March and April. The public sector was primarily responsible for the loss with a decline of 1,700 jobs in Federal Government.

The private sector declined by 400 with a primarily seasonal gain in Trade (800 jobs) offset by losses in Services (500 jobs), Construction (300 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (300 jobs).

Over the year (April 1990 to April 1991), the number of District jobs decreased 0.1 percent for a loss of 900 jobs. **The private sector decreased at a rate of 0.2 percent for a loss of 1,000 jobs.** Losses were primarily concentrated in Trade (1,500 jobs), Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,000 jobs) and Construction (800 jobs) while Services, the only job gainer, registered growth of 3,200 jobs.

The public sector gained 100 jobs with growth in State and Local Government (200 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (100 jobs).

The Suburbs

The number of suburban jobs increased by 0.1 percent for a gain of 800 jobs between March and April. The private sector was responsible for the growth with gains in Construction (1,600 jobs), Trade (1,100 jobs) and Transportation and Public Utilities (600 jobs). The Maryland suburbs accounted for three-fourths of the increase in Construction while the Virginia suburbs were responsible for 88 percent of the growth in Trade and Transportation and Public Utilities.

The public sector decreased by 1,900 jobs with losses in State and Local Government (2,100 jobs) partially offset by a slight gain in Federal Government (200 jobs). The Maryland suburbs accounted for 81 percent of the loss in State and Local Government while the Virginia suburbs were responsible for the gain in Federal Government.

Over the year (April 1990 to April 1991), suburban jobs declined at a rate of 1.2 percent for a loss of 19,300 jobs. **The Maryland suburbs registered a very slight increase while the Virginia suburbs decreased at a rate of 2.5 percent.**

The private sector, declining at a rate of 2.0 percent, accounted for the loss in suburban jobs with 92 percent of the decline in the goods-producing sector (22,200 jobs). Job losses were concentrated in Construction (19,100 jobs), Manufacturing (3,000 jobs), Trade (2,800 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,700 jobs) while the only job gains occurred in Services (1,300 jobs) and Transportation and Public Utilities (1,200 jobs). Seventy-six percent of the Construction loss and all of the decline in Trade occurred in the Virginia suburbs. The Virginia suburbs were also responsible for 57 percent of the loss in Manufacturing and 71 percent of the decline in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate, as well as, all of the Services growth. The Maryland suburbs accounted for the growth in Transportation and Public Utilities.

The public sector grew at a rate of 1.6 percent with growth in State and Local Government (7,900 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (3,000 jobs). Fifty-eight percent of the State and Local Government growth was concentrated in the Maryland suburbs while 90 percent of the decline in Federal Government occurred in the Virginia suburbs.

The Area

The Washington Metropolitan Area lost 1,300 jobs between March and April. The public sector accounted for the loss with declines in both State and Local Government (2,100 jobs) and Federal Government (1,500 jobs).

The private sector increased by 2,300 with gains in Trade (1,900 jobs) and Construction (1,300 jobs).

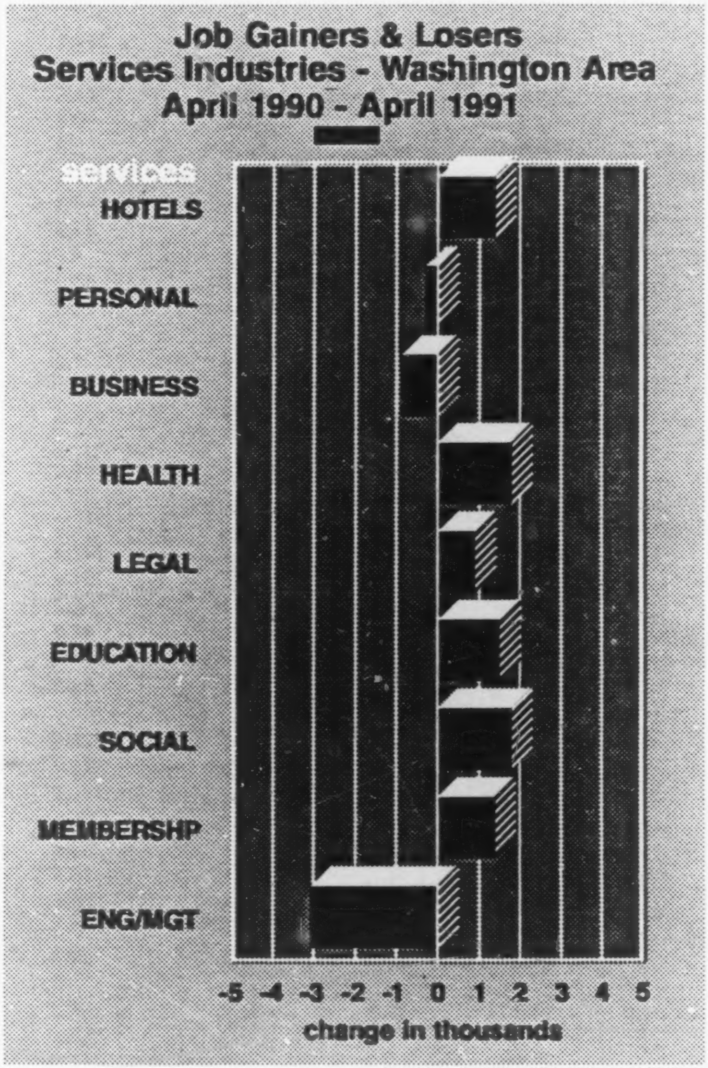
Over the year (April 1990 to April 1991), the Area declined at a rate of 0.9 percent for a loss of 20,200 jobs. The private sector, declining at a rate of 1.5 percent for a loss of 25,200 jobs, was responsible for the Area job loss. Job losses were concentrated in Construction (19,900 jobs), Trade (4,300 jobs), Manufacturing (3,300 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6

Estate (2,700 jobs) while job growth primarily occurred in Services (4,500 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 0.9 percent with gains in State and Local Government (8,100 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (3,100 jobs).



Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a/]
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	Apr.[b/] 1991	Mar.[c/] 1991	Apr.[d/] 1990	Apr.[b/] 1991	Mar.[c/] 1991	Apr.[d/] 1990
TOTAL	**683.8**	**685.9**	**684.7**	**2,212.1**	**2,213.4**	**2,232.3**
Total Private Sector	**408.8**	**409.2**	**409.8**	**1,623.9**	**1,621.6**	**1,649.1**
Total Government	**275.0**	**276.7**	**274.9**	**588.2**	**591.8**	**583.2**
Total Goods Producing	**29.1**	**29.5**	**30.2**	**204.1**	**203.3**	**227.4**
Manufacturing	**15.4**	**15.5**	**15.7**	**84.3**	**84.9**	**87.6**
Total Durable	2.2	2.2	2.2	40.8	41.2	42.4
Stone, Clay, Glass Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.8	2.8	3.4
Electronic & Electric Equip.	N/A	N/A	N/A	18.2	18.4	17.1
All Other Durable	N/A	N/A	N/A	19.8	20.0	21.9
Total Non-Durable	13.2	13.3	13.5	43.5	43.7	45.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	4.7	4.6	4.5
Printing & Publishing	12.5	12.6	12.8	33.0	33.3	34.7
All Other Non-Durable	0.4	0.4	0.4	5.8	5.8	6.0
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**1.2**	**1.1**	**1.3**
Construction	**13.6**	**13.9**	**14.4**	**118.6**	**117.3**	**138.5**
Total Service Producing	**654.7**	**656.4**	**654.5**	**2008.0**	**2010.1**	**2004.9**
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	**23.5**	**23.5**	**24.1**	**107.7**	**107.1**	**107.1**
All Transportation	8.9	8.9	9.3	51.4	50.8	50.6
Railroads	4.1	4.1	4.2	5.2	5.2	5.3
Transportation ex. Railroad	4.8	4.8	5.1	46.2	45.6	45.3
Communications & Public Utilities	14.6	14.6	14.8	56.3	56.3	56.5
Trade	**60.8**	**60.0**	**62.3**	**426.0**	**424.1**	**430.3**
Wholesale	8.2	8.2	8.6	78.3	78.5	78.3
Retail	52.6	51.8	53.7	347.7	345.6	352.0
General Merchandise	N/A	N/A	N/A	35.5	35.8	37.7
Food Stores	N/A	N/A	N/A	50.5	50.4	49.5
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	35.9	36.0	37.3
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	28.5	28.7	28.3
Eating & Drinking Places	28.3	27.2	28.4	116.6	113.9	116.7
All Other Retail	24.3	24.6	25.3	80.7	80.8	82.5
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**32.7**	**33.0**	**33.7**	**127.7**	**128.2**	**130.4**
Finance	15.2	15.4	16.0	58.7	58.9	60.2
Depository Institutions	8.2	8.3	9.0	38.8	39.0	40.2
Other Finance	7.0	7.1	7.0	19.9	19.9	20.0
Insurance	8.0	8.1	7.9	28.5	28.6	27.8
Real Estate	9.5	9.5	9.8	40.5	40.7	42.4

Continued on page 9

Continued from page 8

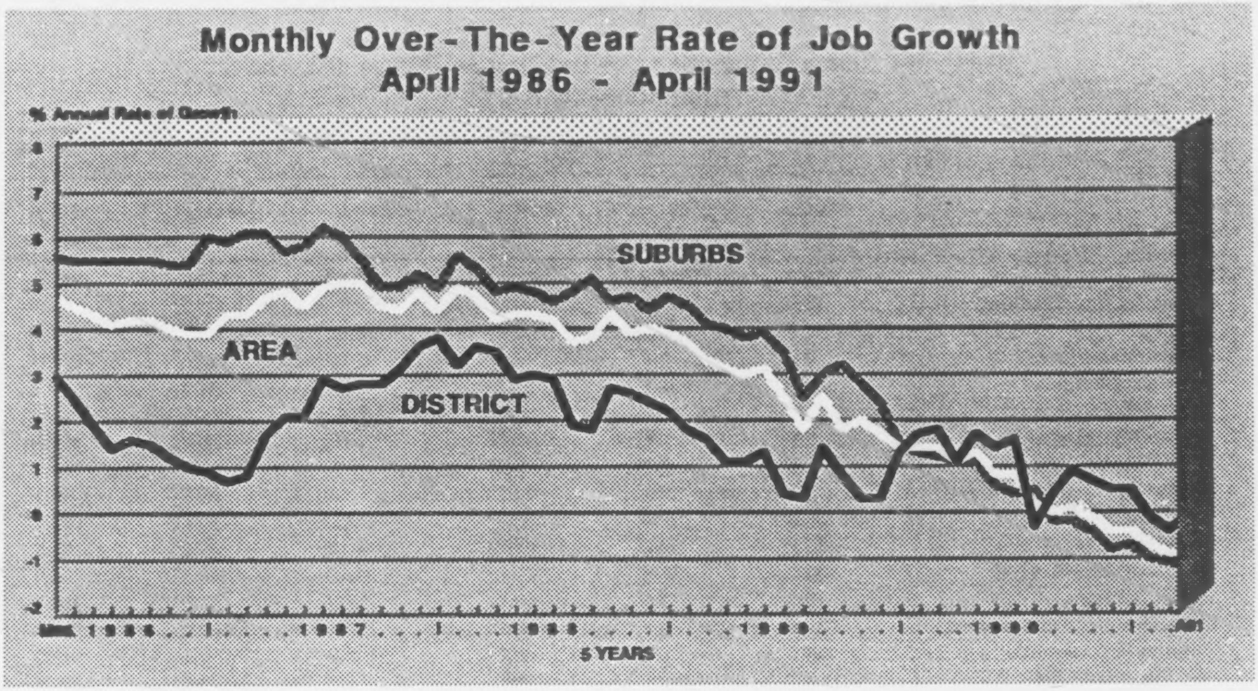
Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Worka/
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	Apr.b/ 1991	Mar.c/ 1991	Apr.d/ 1990	Apr.b/ 1991	Mar.c/ 1991	Apr.d/ 1990
Services	**262.7**	**263.2**	**259.5**	**758.4**	**758.9**	**753.9**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	17.6	17.9	17.1	39.0	39.0	37.6
Personal Services	3.4	3.4	3.5	23.2	23.3	23.5
Business Services	38.4	38.5	39.3	180.9	181.7	181.8
Service to Buildings	13.1	13.1	14.1	N/A	N/A	N/A
Personnel Supply	7.9	8.0	8.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	5.9	6.0	5.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Business Services	11.5	11.4	11.2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	38.0	38.4	38.0	118.9	119.4	117.1
Legal Services	30.2	30.4	29.3	40.8	41.0	39.9
Educational Services	33.1	32.8	32.0	47.0	46.8	45.5
Social Services	13.1	13.1	12.8	37.2	37.2	35.4
Membership Organizations	34.8	34.7	33.8	63.0	63.0	61.6
Engineering/Management Ser.	44.0	43.9	43.7	144.9	145.1	148.0
All Other Services	10.1	10.1	10.0	63.5	62.4	63.5
Government	**275.0**	**276.7**	**274.9**	**588.2**	**591.8**	**583.2**
Federal Government	217.7	219.4	217.8	358.0	359.5	361.1
State & Local Government	57.3	57.3	57.1	230.2	232.3	222.1
State Government	52.5	52.5	52.3	81.4	81.5	79.3
Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	148.8	150.8	142.8
Public Transportation	4.8	4.8	4.8	N/A	N/A	N/A

a/ Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. b/ Preliminary.
c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions.

Data includes all full-and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

SOURCE: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.


Monthly Over-The-Year Rate of Job Growth
April 1986 - April 1991

Area Job Growth Rates

Over the past five years (April 1986 to April 1991), the Washington Area created new jobs at a rate of 3.0 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has declined from a peak of 5.0 percent in August 1987 to a net loss of nine-tenths of a percent in April 1991. **This marked the sixth consecutive month that the Washington Area recorded an over-the-year job loss. Importantly, the yearly job loss in April of nine tenths was the same as the loss reported in March. This could be an early signal that recessionary job losses in the Area may be bottoming out.** This April's measurement was down from a 1.1 percent increase reported in April 1990.

For the eighth consecutive month, the suburban economy recorded an over-the-year job loss. The April loss represented a job decline of 1.2 percent from a year earlier. This suburban loss was down from the yearly growth of 1.1 percent reported in April 1990. In the District, the number of jobs decreased over the year by one-tenth of a percentage point and represents a loss of 2.6 percent of the June 1990 maximum job base, the third consecutive over-the-year drop. The loss of District jobs this year compares to a growth of 1.1 percent reported in the same month a year ago.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from a peak gain during the past five years of 101,300 new jobs created between July 1986 and July 1987, to a loss of 20,200 jobs between April 1990 and this past April. Over the past year, 19,300 jobs were lost by the suburban economy, while the District lost 900 jobs.

The U.S. economy for the third month lost jobs over the year. The U.S. loss was the same as in the Wasington Area (a 0.9 percent decline for the U.S. economy and a 0.9 percent decline for the Washington Area).

Job creation in the Washington Area peaked in June of 1990 with 2,271,600 jobs. Thus measured from that peak, as of April the local economy has lost 59,500 jobs to the current economic recession. This is

Profile of Job Growth Rates
April 1990 to April 1991

The Area	
Average 60 months	3.0%
High, August 1987	5.0%
Low, April 1991	-0.9%
1-year ago	1.1%
Last month	-0.9%
Current month	-0.9%
The Suburbs	
Average 60 months	3.6%
High, July 1987	6.2%
Low, April 1991	-1.2%
1-year ago	1.1%
Last month	-1.2%
Current month	-1.2%
The District	
Average 60 months	1.7%
High, December 1987	3.8%
Low, March 1991	-0.4%
1-year ago	1.1%
Last month	-0.4%
Current month	-0.1%

Note: Data reflects benchmark revisions for 1989-1990.

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Department of Employment Services

Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Areas

In March 1991, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 271 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The Washington Area's March's jobless rate was down 0.3 percentage point to 4.2 percent. This was the twenty-second lowest jobless rate of the 271 areas reporting. A year ago, the Washington Area rate was 2.9 percent, a 1.3 percentage point rise.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 4.2 percent was the second lowest of all the major metropolitan areas.

In March, the Baltimore Area, only 35 miles north of Washington, posted a 0.2 percentage point drop in their jobless rate, falling from 7.0 percent to 6.8 percent. The Baltimore rate was up 2.8 percentage points over the year. The Baltimore area has the thirty-first highest rate among the 40 selected areas tracked in the *Area Labor Summary.*

The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, posted a 0.2 percentage point decrease in its jobless rate. In March, the rate was 5.3 percent. A year ago, the rate was 3.7 percent.

Their neighbor, the Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport area had a 6.4 percent jobless rate in March, down 0.3 percentage point from February and up 2.2 percent from last March.

Of the 40 selected areas, Tucson at 3.5 percent was the only large metropolitan area with a jobless rate under 4.0 percent. Besides the Washington Area, jobless rates between 4.0 percent and 4.9 percent were reported in 5 other large metropolitan areas. Next to Tucson and Washington, the lowest rate was recorded in another Arizona city, Phoenix at 4.3 percent. Both San Francisco and Portland posted jobless rates of 4.5 percent. Nashville and Minneapolis-St. Paul recorded rates of 4.7 percent and 4.8 percent, respectively.

There were 15 large metropolitan areas with rates between 5.0 and 5.9 percent. There also were 11 large metropolitan areas with rates between 6.0 and 6.9 percent, 4 large metropolitan areas with rates between 7.0 and 7.9 percent, and 2 large metropolitan areas with rates between 8.0 and 8.9 percent. Detroit at 10.7 percent was the only major metropolitan area with a double digit jobless rate.

Of the 271 metropolitan areas for which March data are available, 177 had over-the-year increases of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rates. A total of 66 areas registered March 1991 rates of 8 percent or higher, while 62 had rates of 5 percent or below.

Unemployment Rates in Selected Statistical Areas

MSA	March	
	1991*	1990
1. Tuscon, AR	3.5	4.1
2. Washington, D.C.	**4.2**	**2.9**
3. Phoenix, AR	4.3	4.4
4. San Francisco, CA	4.5	2.8
5. Portland, OR	4.5	4.1
6. Nashville, TN	4.7	3.7
7. Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	4.8	4.4
8. Memphis, TN	5.0	4.5
9. New Orleans, LA	5.1	5.8
10. Seattle, WA	5.2	3.6
11. Houston, TX	5.2	4.5
12. Columbus, OH	5.2	4.7
13. Atlanta, GA	5.2	4.2
14. Hartford, CT	5.2	4.6
15. Richmond-Petersburg, VA	5.3	3.7
16. Milwaukee, WI	5.4	3.7
17. Louisville, KY	5.4	5.7
18. Kansas City, MO	5.6	4.8
19. Oakland, CA	5.7	3.5
20. Indianapolis, IN	5.7	4.3
21. Oklahoma City, OK	5.7	4.5
22. Denver, CO	5.9	5.1
23. Cleveland, OH	6.0	5.0
24. Dallas, TX	6.2	5.4
25. San Diego, CA	6.4	3.5
26. Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport, VA	6.4	4.2
27. Chicago, IL	6.6	5.6
28. Montgomery, AL	6.6	5.8
29. Pittsburgh, PA	6.6	5.0
30. Philadelphia, PA	6.7	4.4
31. Baltimore, MD	6.8	4.0
32. St. Louis, MO	6.9	5.9
33. Los Angeles, CA	6.9	5.9
34. Newark, NJ	7.1	5.3
35. Dayton, OH	7.3	5.6
36. Buffalo, NY	7.3	5.0
37. New York, NY	7.6	6.2
38. Miami, FL	8.4	5.5
39. Boston, MA	8.6	4.9
40. Detroit, MI	10.7	7.3

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

States

When the District of Columbia (with a March unemployment rate of 6.9 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the twenty-fourth highest jobless rate in the Country. This was seven notches below the position held in February.

Maryland's rate at 6.0 percent was down 0.5 percentage point from the February rate. Maryland's rate has been improving as of recent, however, it is still 2.3 percent higher than March a year ago. Among the 51 jurisdictions, from highest to the lowest, Maryland ranked thirty-ninth in March. This compared to thirty-fifth in February.

Virginia's rate was down 0.3 percentage point, falling from 6.5 percent in February to 6.2 percent in March. Virginia's rate also seems to be improving somewhat. As in February, Virginia ranked thirty-sixth among the 51 jurisdictions. A year ago, Virginia's jobless rate was 4.0 percent, up 2.2 percentage points over the year.

Twenty-nine states reported over-the-year increases in their unemployment rate of 1 percentage point or more. The largest jump—4.4 percentage points—took place in Massachusetts, while Maine, Michigan, and Montana all registered increases of more than 3 percentage points. No state reported an unemployment rate decrease of 1 percentage point or more.

Nine states had March 1991 unemployment rates of 8 percent or above, compared with only one a year earlier. Michigan (11.0 percent) and Massachusetts and West Virginia (both 10.3 percent) had the highest unemployment rates. In contrast, seven states had jobless rates of 5 percent or below in March 1991, down from 17 states a year earlier. Hawaii (2.6 percent) and Nebraska (2.8 percent) continued to have the lowest jobless rates in the Nation, as they had since July 1989.

Cities

In comparison with the 26 selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with a March preliminary rate of 6.9 percent) held the thirteenth position. This was three notches below the February position when it was sixteenth. In March, the average unemployment rate of the 27 cities was 7.6 percent, compared to 6.0 percent last March.

Only seven cities reported jobless rates at or below 6 percent, with the lowest posted in Phoenix at 4.4 percent, followed by San Francisco and Memphis both at 5.0 percent.

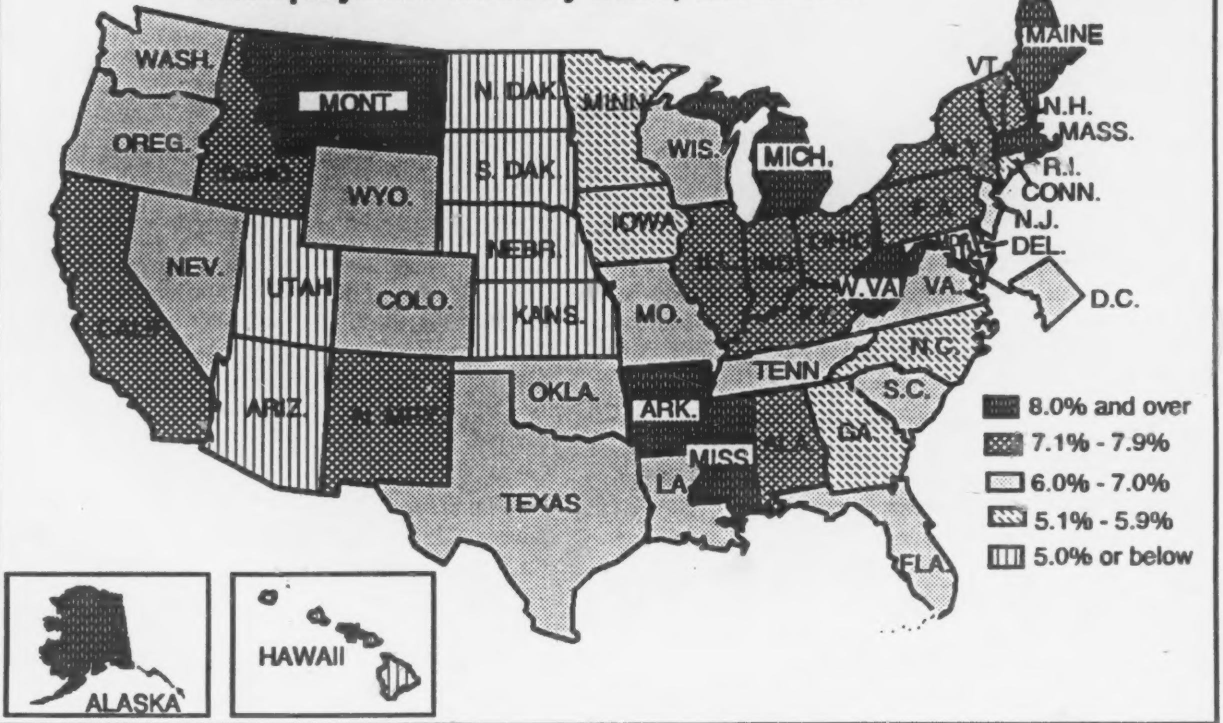
Baltimore's rate remained relatively unchanged at 9.3 percent. The 9.3 percent is 3.0 percentage points higher than the 6.3 percent recorded a year ago. In March, Baltimore had the twenty-fourth highest rate of the 27 selected cities.

For seven consecutive months, Newark has been a double-digit unemployment rate city. Newark's rate at 13.3 percent was up 0.6 percentage point over the month and 3.0 percent over the year. Newark held the twenty-sixth position same as February.

Detroit's jobless rate at 14.8 percent in March was up 0.2 percentage point over the month, compared to a two percent increase in February. Over the year, Detroit's rate was up 4.5 percent. Detroit recorded the highest rate of the 27 selected cities.

Of the 27 selected central cities, only two reported decreases in joblessness and twenty five reported increases in joblessness over the year. New Orleans and Phoenix recorded decreases of 0.8 percent and 0.1 percent, respectively. The largest over-the-year increases were posted by Detroit—4.5 percent and Boston—4.1 percent. These were followed by Miami—3.4 percent and Indianapolis, Baltimore and Newark each 3.0 percent. San Diego reported a yearly increase of 2.9 percent, Pittsburgh—2.8 percent and Philadelphia—2.6 percent.

Unemployment Rates by State, March 1991


WASH.
MONT.
N. DAK.
MINN.
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WYO.
IOWA
NEBR.
NEV.
UTAH
COLO.
KANS.
MO.
W.VA.
VA.
ARIZ.
OKLA.
ARK.
TENN
N.C.
S.C.
MISS.
GA.
LA.
TEXAS
FLA.
MAINE
VT.
N.H.
MASS.
R.I.
CONN.
N.J.
DEL.
D.C.
ALASKA
HAWAII
8.0% and over
7.1% - 7.9%
6.0% - 7.0%
5.1% - 5.9%
5.0% or below

Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities

	March 1991*	March 1990
1. Phoenix, AR	4.4	4.5
2. San Francisco, CA	5.0	3.3
3. Memphis, TN	5.0	4.5
4. New Orleans, LA	5.2	6.0
5. Columbus, OH	5.2	4.6
6. Seattle, WA	5.4	3.8
7. Houston, TX	5.6	4.9
8. Indianapolis, IN	6.1	3.1
9. Dallas, TX	6.4	5.2
10. San Diego, CA	6.4	3.5
11. Milwaukee, WI	6.6	4.7
12. Denver, CO	6.9	6.0
13. District of Columbia	**6.9**	**6.3**
14. Atlanta, GA	7.0	6.1
15. Pittsburgh, PA	7.6	4.8
16. Los Angeles, CA	7.7	6.6
17. Chicago, IL	7.8	7.2
18. New York, NY	8.1	6.8
19. Philadelphia, PA	8.1	5.5
20. St. Louis, MO	8.4	8.1
21. Boston, MA	9.2	5.1
22. Cleveland, OH	9.2	7.7
23. Hartford, CT	9.3	8.8
24. Baltimore, MD	9.3	6.3
25. Miami, FL	10.3	6.9
26. Newark, NJ	13.3	10.3
27. Detroit, MI	14.8	10.3

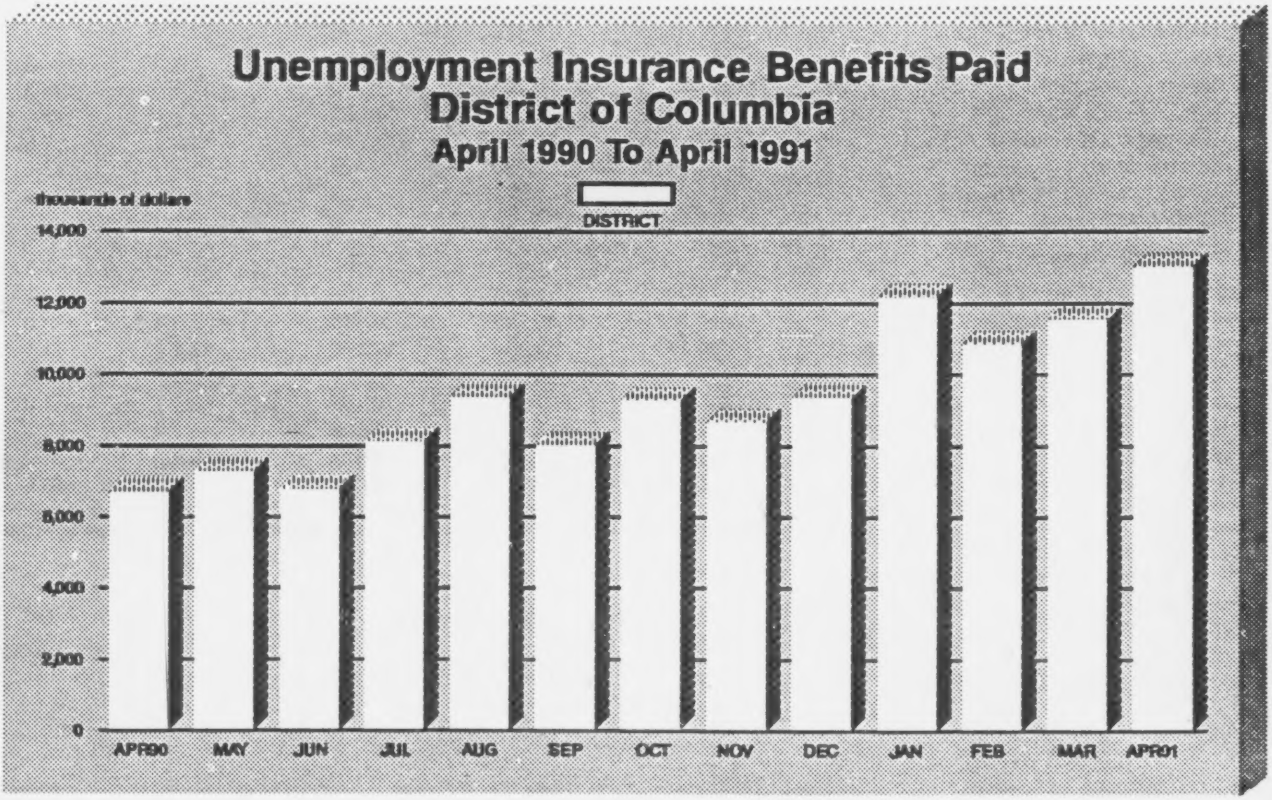
*Preliminary unemployment rates.

Unemployment Insurance Activities
April 1991

District of Columbia unemployment insurance initial claims for benefits in April 1991 reached 4,000. The April level was 5 percent above March. This month marks a change in trend from the past several years, when April claims have actually dropped. The slight rise is, however, not consistent with the large increases which have previously been registered in the first month of most other calendar quarters. The first month represents the change of the base period for determining the monetary benefit of claims and usually there is a significant surge of filers. April continues to be somewhat counter to the general trend.

The number of jobless weeks claimed reached 61,000 in April, and is the highest monthly amount on record for the last five years. Weeks actually compensated—60,880—hold a similar record. Both measures rose 13 percent above last month. Weeks claimed this month were 80 percent above the same level last year, and the compensated weeks rose slightly higher at 85 percent. Also at a 5-year record level this month, the benefit outlay peaked at $13.0 million—13 percent above last month and nearly double (94 percent) the payout in April of 1990. These workload and payout levels reflect the continued downward slide in economic activity from last year to the present time. This has also been evidenced by firm closures and significant layoffs of employees by other remaining firms. The year-to-date (January-April) experience is record-setting same as April. The 17,250 claims filed through April represent a 37 percent increase over the same four-month period last year.

Also to date, 222,430 idle weeks have been claimed, and compensation for 222,580 weeks has been paid. The yearly rise for these measures has been 51 and 57 percent, respectively. The benefit outlay reached $47.6 million this year through April, and was two-thirds more than last year.



Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
April 1991

	Apr. 1991	Mar. 1991	Apr. 1990	% Change From Mar. 1991	% Change From Apr. 1990
State UI Program[a/]					
Initial Claims Taken	3,879	3,746	2,599	+3.6	+49.2
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	58,422	50,894	32,216	+14.8	+81.3
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	57,989	51,007	30,900	+13.7	+87.7
Total Benefits Paid	$12,356,976	$10,895,159	$6,254,716	+13.4	+97.6
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$213.09	$213.60	$202.42	-0.2	+5.3
Number of First Payments	2,613	2,853	1,499	-8.4	+74.3
Number of Final Payments	1,361	1,249	838	+9.0	+62.4
Total Beneficiaries	15,062	14,773	8,888	+2.0	+69.5
Federal Program[b/]					
Initial Claims Taken	85	48	70	+77.1	+21.4
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	2,345	2,427	1,656	-3.3	+41.6
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,639	2,586	1,824	+2.0	+44.7
Total Benefits Paid	$613,398	$590,522	$419,024	+3.9	+46.4
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$232.44	$228.35	$229.73	+1.8	+1.2
Number of First Payments	99	101	80	-2.0	+23.8
Number of Final Payments	96	64	68	+50.0	+41.2
Total Beneficiaries	664	688	506	-3.5	+31.2
Ex-Servicepersons Program[c/]					
Initial Claims Taken	32	25	36	+28.0	-11.1
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	296	321	266	-7.8	+11.3
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	251	233	199	+7.7	+26.1
Total Benefits Paid	$53,875	$49,355	$38,976	+9.2	+38.2
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$214.64	$211.82	$195.86	+1.3	+9.6
Number of First Payments	18	23	29	-21.7	-37.9
Number of Final Payments	16	17	7	-5.9	+128.6
Total Beneficiaries	68	78	70	-12.8	-2.9
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	3,996	3,819	2,705	+4.6	+47.7
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	61,063	53,642	34,138	+13.8	+78.9
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	60,879	53,826	32,923	+13.1	+84.9
Total Benefits Paid	$13,024,249	$11,535,036	$6,712,716	+12.9	+94.0
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$213.94	$214.30	$203.89	-0.2	+4.9
Number of First Payments	2,730	2,977	1,608	-8.3	+69.8
Number of Final Payments	1,473	1,330	913	+10.8	+61.3
Total Beneficiaries	15,794	15,539	9,464	+1.6	+66.9

a/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

b/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation of Ex-Serviceperson (UCX).

c/ No joint claims.

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for April 1991 decreased $1.40. Average Weekly Hours showed a slight increase of .1 hour, as Average Hourly Earnings dropped 7 cents an hour.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Stone, Clay and Glass Products' weekly earnings increased $20.18 and weekly hours rose 1.9 hours due to overtime. Average hourly earnings were down 7 cents due to an increase in the proportion of lower paid employees.

In the Non-Durable Goods Sector, Food and Kindred Products reflect overtime worked which caused weekly earnings to rise $26.49. Weekly hours increased 1.1 hours as hourly earnings rose 32 cents. A seasonal increase in Other Non-Durable Goods caused weekly earnings and weekly hours to increase $11.58 and 1.8 hours, respectively.

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
April 1991

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Apr. 1991	Mar. 1991	Apr. 1990	Apr. 1991	Mar. 1991	Apr. 1990	Apr. 1991	Mar. 1991	Apr. 1990
Total Manufacturing	500.26	501.66	475.59	38.6	38.5	38.2	12.96	13.03	12.45
Durable Goods	525.84	520.41	501.28	42.0	41.5	41.6	12.52	12.54	12.05
Stone Clay & Glass Products	505.36	485.18	547.24	41.8	39.9	48.3	12.09	12.16	11.33
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	499.25	500.82	438.06	41.5	41.7	40.3	12.03	12.01	10.87
Other Durable Goods	541.44	535.01	511.15	42.3	41.7	40.6	12.80	12.83	12.59
Non-Durable Goods	480.96	485.91	455.47	36.0	36.1	35.5	13.36	13.46	12.83
Food & Kindred Products	511.83	485.34	431.58	42.3	41.2	40.6	12.10	11.78	10.63
Printing & Publishing	505.24	520.36	478.08	34.0	34.9	34.1	14.86	14.91	14.02
Other Non-Durable Goods	379.37	367.79	375.93	39.6	37.8	39.2	9.58	9.73	9.59

	Apr. 1991	Mar. 1991	Apr. 1990
Total Production Workers	38,000	38,100	40,300

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1990 Unemployment Insurance Quality Control Report Issued

Recently, the Department of Employment Services issued its annual quality control report covering payments under the City's unemployment compensation program. The study found that 90.3 percent of the dollars paid to UI claimants were "properly paid."

Most of the overpayments (nearly 8 of every 10) were due to claimant error. The major cause was claimants not reporting, or under reporting, earnings received while receiving benefit payments. In 1990, 51 percent of these claimant errors were determined to be the result of fraud, or a deliberate failure to report earnings. A few other errors resulted from employers incorrectly reporting base year earnings of claimants. The remainder of the errors were mainly due to staff miscalculations in determining allowance for dependents or because of other processing errors. Persons interested in receiving a free copy of the report may do so by calling (202) 639-2000.

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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR MAY 1991 JULY 1991

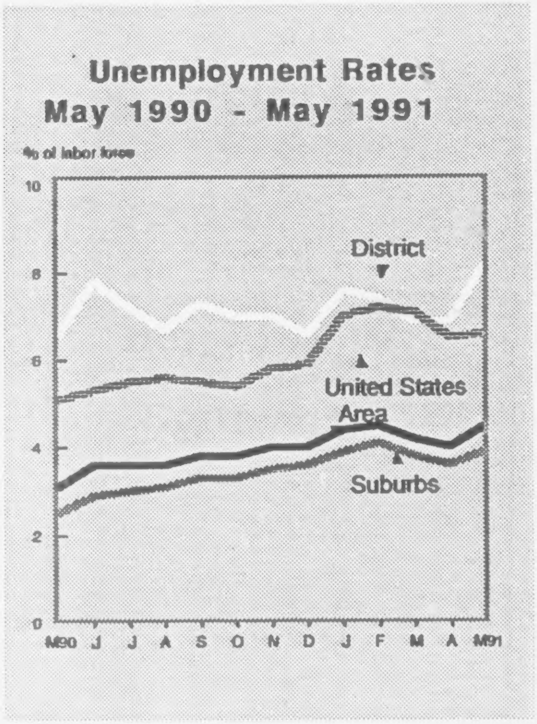
Unemployment Rates in the Area Surge in May Over the Year Area Job Losses 28,400

Labor Force

During May, unemployment rates in the Washington Metropolitan Area recorded significant monthly increases. The rate in the District showed the largest advance, rising from 6.9 percent of the labor force in April to 8.2 percent in May—an unusually large monthly increase of 1.6 percentage points. In the suburbs, the increase measured a smaller three-tenths of a percentage point, pushing the suburban unemployment rate from 3.6 percent in April to 3.9 percent in May. The increases in the District and its suburbs combined to produce an areawide rate of 4.5 percent in May, up a substantial half of a percentage point from April.

Job creation in the Washington Area in May proved to be too weak to absorb the influx of new workers, including the seasonal expansion of new college graduates and students on summer vacation. These new workers combined with an already large pool of jobless workers to push the local rates higher.

Seasonally unadjusted unemployment among civilian workers across the United States in May measured 6.6 percent, up from 6.5 percent in April.


Unemployment Rates May 1990 - May 1991

Continued on page 3

Government of the
District of Columbia
Sharon Pratt Dixon
Mayor

JOB SERVICE

Department of
Employment Services
Maria Borrero
Director

The
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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR MAY 1991 JULY 1991

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The *Area Labor Summary* is published monthly by the D.C. Department of Employment Services, 500 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The Labor Market Information and Research Staff (Richard Groner, Chief) prepares the *Summary*. The following staff members have contributed to the publication and development of data herein: Charles Roeslin, Rufus Daniels, Eileen Dent, Nancy Anderson-Grant, Elsie Taylor, and Gwendolyn Thompson, and administrative support was provided by Robin McDonald.

Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

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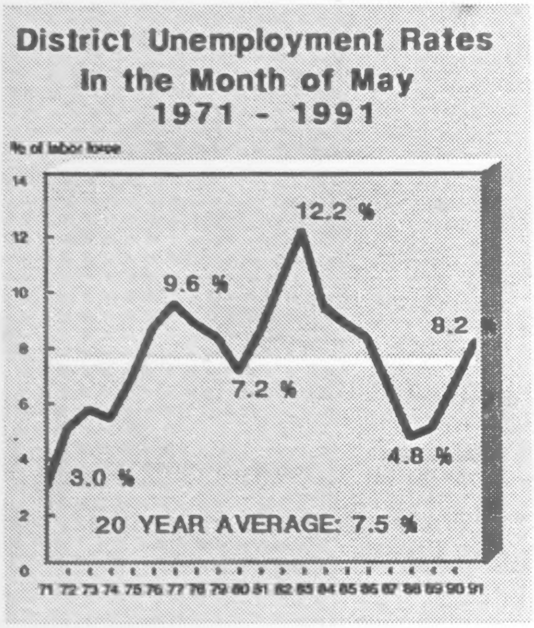
Over the past year, the unadjusted U.S. unemployment rate rose from 5.1 percent in May 1990 to 6.6 percent this past May. This represents an increase of 1.5 percentage points. However, this is slightly less than the over-the-year changes in rates in the Washington area.

The District

As has been the pattern in recent months, the number of District residents holding jobs in May declined. Some of the workers losing jobs left the labor force while others joined the pool of previously unemployed workers. These job losers were joined by an influx of seasonal workers from colleges and universities who also were unable to find employment in the current recessionary job market. In terms of the absolute numbers, jobs held by District residents declined in May by 7,900. As a result, an estimated 4,900 workers left the labor force and an additional 3,100 persons were added to the unemployment rolls. These changes caused the unemployment rate in the District to jump a significant 1.6 percentage points, pushing the unemployment rate to a level of 8.2 percent of the labor force.


District Unemployment Rates In the Month of May 1971 - 1991

This was the highest May rate in over five years, since the 8.4 percent recorded in May of 1986. The monthly rate, however, was still significantly below the historically high May rate of 12.2 percent set in 1983. An increase in the District's unemployment rate between April and May is common. Over the past 14 years, the rate has risen 11 times and fallen only 3 times. On average, the May increase has been about half a percentage point. Thus, nearly half of this year's increase is probably seasonal in nature, reflecting in part, the annual summer addition of college students to the work force.

Viewed from an over-the-year standpoint, the recession's impact on the District's labor force is clear. Compared to May of 1990, there are now 22,200 fewer residents with jobs, representing a significant 8.0 percent decline in employment. These job losses are reflected in the 19,000-person (6.4 percent) decline in the labor force and the 3,200-person (16.3 percent) increase in the jobless rolls. These changes caused the District's unemployment rate to expand from 6.6 percent of the labor force in May of 1990 to 8.2 percent this past

Continued on page 4

Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C., MSA by City and County

	May a/ 1991	Apr. b/ 1991	May b/ 1990
1. **District of Columbia**	**8.2**	**6.9**	**6.6**
2. Calvert County	7.2	6.7	3.5
3. Frederick County	5.9	6.0	3.1
4. Stafford County	5.6	5.6	3.1
5. Manassas City	5.5	6.1	2.3
6. Prince Georges County	5.0	4.4	3.4
7. Charles County	4.7	4.2	2.5
8. Manassas Park City	4.7	3.5	2.2
9. Alexandria City	4.4	4.1	2.6
10. Prince William County	4.1	4.0	2.4
11. Loudoun County	3.6	3.5	1.7
12. Arlington County	3.4	2.9	2.0
13. Montgomery County	3.3	3.0	2.3
14. Fairfax County	3.0	2.7	2.0
15. Falls Church City	2.4	2.8	1.7
16. Fairfax City	2.0	1.9	1.8

a/ Preliminary. b/ Revised.
SOURCE: The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Continued from page 3

May—a significant rise of 1.6 percentage points. In the District, the recession has resulted in many District residents losing their jobs. Most of the job losers left the labor market and a smaller number joined the unemployment lines.

The Suburbs and Area

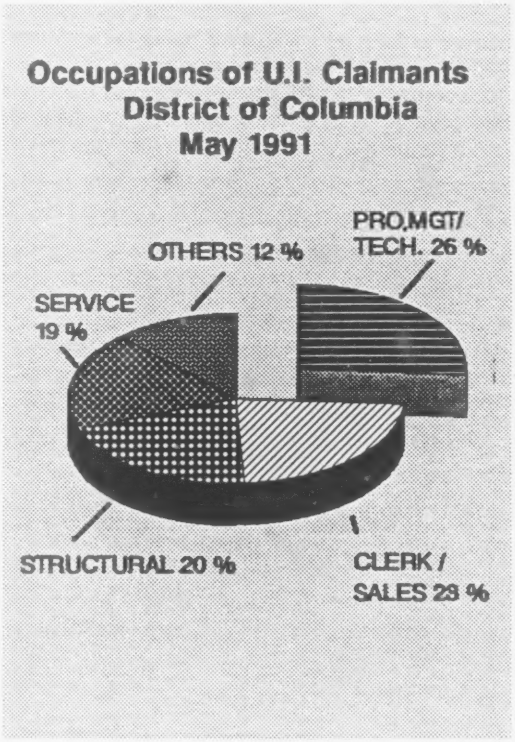
In the Washington suburbs, 10,800 new workers joined the labor force in May. However, local employers only added 4,400 suburbanites to their payrolls. Consequently, 6,300 more workers were added to the suburban pool of jobless workers. These changes pushed the suburban May unemployment rate up three-tenths of a percent to 3.9 percent.

Over the year, significant transformations have occurred in the suburban worker pool as a result of the Area's economic slowdown. Despite a size of nearly 1.9 million people, the suburban labor force has showed virtually no growth for the past year. On the other hand, 34,900 suburbanites lost their jobs, a nearly 2 percent decrease in employment. Nearly all of these suburban job losers remained in the labor market, therefore, the pool of unemployed suburbanites grew by 33,800 people—an expansion of nearly 82 percent. This pool of jobless workers in the suburbs now numbers more than 75,000. As a result, the suburban unemployment rate increased over the year by a significant 1.7 percentage points from just 2.2 percent of the labor force in May of 1990 to 3.9 percent this May.

The over-the-year labor market changes in the District and the suburbs produced dramatic changes in the Washington Area market. During the past year, the Area labor supply declined by more than 20,000 workers. This Area labor force decline of nearly 1 percent, reflects almost exclusively the decline of workers in the District's labor pool. On the other hand, about 61 percent of the 57,100 people losing jobs were persons living in the suburbs. Since most of these suburbanites stayed in the labor force, more than 90 percent of the increase in the Area's unemployed workers are suburbanites. The pool of unemployed Area residents now numbers almost 100,000. These over-the-year changes resulted in a 1.7 percentage points increase in the Area's unemployment rate, pushing the rate from a very low 2.8 percent in May of 1990 to 4.5 percent this past May. This was the Area's highest May unemployment rate in eight years. Not since the 5.2 percent recorded in 1983 has the May rate been this high. The record high for the Area for any month is the 6.4 percent recorded in both January and February of 1983.

Observation

While some analysts have indicated that a local recovery from the current recession may be underway, the labor force statistics clearly have not responded to these early signals. This is to be expected. Employment gains normally lag behind the general economic improvements in a recovery. In fact, unemployment rates may actually increase early in a recovery, because discouraged workers will begin re-entering the job market before job growth is sufficiently strong enough to absorb additional workers. Thus, even if a local recovery has in fact commenced, unemployment rates may remain high, or even go higher, before they begin any sustained decline.


Occupations of U.I. Claimants
District of Columbia
May 1991

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

In May 1991, 58 percent of all UI claimants were males. Occupationally, professional, technical and managerial workers accounted for 26 percent of the total workers. This was followed by 23 percent in clerical and sales, 20 percent in structural and 19 percent for service workers. The remaining 12 percent was distributed between machine trades, bench work, processing and miscellaneous workers.

The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 10.9 weeks for all claimants in May. Over the month, the duration for males rose from 10.3 weeks to 11.2 weeks, while for females the duration rose from 10.0 weeks to 10.7 weeks. A year ago, the duration was 10.0 weeks for males and 9.9 weeks for females.

Labor Force Distribution Washington Metropolitan Area May 1991 & May 1990

(percent)

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
		MAY 1991	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	12.7	12.2	23.2
Suburbs	87.3	87.8	76.8
		MAY 1990	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.4	12.9	32.1
Suburbs	86.6	87.1	67.9

Employment Status for the Civilian Population District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA

May 1991 a/

	May b/ 1991	Apr. c/ 1991	May d/ 1990	Apr. d/ 1990	Net Change from Apr. 1991	Net Change from May 1990
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	278,800	283,700	297,800	296,700	-4,900	-19,000
Total Employed	256,100	264,000	278,300	277,900	-7,900	-22,200
Total Unemployed	22,800	19,700	19,600	18,700	3,100	3,200
Unemployment Rate e/	8.2	6.9	6.6	6.3	1.3	1.6
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,919,300	1,908,500	1,920,400	1,907,500	10,800	-1,100
Total Employed	1,843,900	1,839,500	1,878,800	1,870,400	4,400	-34,900
Total Unemployed	75,300	69,000	41,500	37,200	6,300	33,800
Unemployment Rate e/	3.9	3.6	2.2	2.0	0.3	1.7
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,198,100	2,192,200	2,218,200	2,204,200	5,900	-20,100
Total Employed	2,100,000	2,103,500	2,157,100	2,148,300	-3,500	-57,100
Total Unemployed	98,100	88,700	61,100	55,900	9,400	37,000
Unemployment Rate e/	4.5	4.0	2.8	2.5	0.5	1.7

a/ Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding. b/ Preliminary. c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions. e/ Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia, the Virginia Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, and Stafford; and the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick, and Calvert.

Job Growth

The District

The number of jobs in the District increased by 700 for a growth rate of 0.1 percent between April and May. The public sector was responsible for the growth with a gain of 1,300 jobs in Federal Government.

The private sector declined by 300 with losses in Trade (200 jobs) and Construction (200 jobs). Services gained 100 jobs as gains in Hotels (700 jobs), Business Services (600 jobs) and Engineering and Management Services (400 jobs) were partially offset by a seasonal loss in Educational Services (1,600 jobs).

Over the year (May 1990 to May 1991), the number of District jobs decreased 0.8 percent for a loss of 5,600 jobs. **The private sector decreased at a rate of 1.1 percent for a loss of 4,600 jobs.** Losses were primarily concentrated in Trade (1,700 jobs), Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,300 jobs) and Construction (1,000 jobs) while Services, the only job gainer, registered growth of only 200 jobs.

The public sector lost 1,000 jobs with losses in both Federal Government (800 jobs) and State and Local Government (200 jobs). The Federal job loss reflects lower Census employment levels this year.

The Suburbs

The number of suburban jobs increased by 0.7 percent for a gain of 10,400 jobs between April and May. The private sector was responsible for the growth with gains in Trade (3,700 jobs), Services (1,700 jobs), Construction (1,600 jobs) and Transportation and Public Utilities (500 jobs). The Virginia suburbs were responsible for 73 percent of the Trade growth and all of the increases in Services and Transportation and Public Utilities while the Maryland suburbs accounted for 69 percent of the increase in Construction.

The public sector increased by 2,500 jobs with gains in both Federal Government (1,700 jobs) and State and Local Government (800 jobs). The Virginia suburbs were responsible for 59 percent of the gain in Federal Government while the Maryland suburbs accounted for the gain in State and Local Government.

Over the year (May 1990 to May 1991), suburban jobs declined at a rate of 1.5 percent for a loss of 22,800 jobs. **The Maryland suburbs registered a decline of 0.1 percent while the Virginia suburbs decreased at a rate of 2.5 percent.**

The private sector, declining at a rate of 2.0 percent, accounted for the loss in suburban jobs with 88 percent of the decline in the goods-producing sector (22,200 jobs). Job losses were concentrated in Construction (19,000 jobs), Trade (3,700 jobs), Manufacturing (3,100 jobs), and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (2,000 jobs) while the only job gains occurred in Services (2,100 jobs) and Transportation and Public Utilities (700 jobs). Seventy-seven percent of the Construction loss and all of the decline in Trade occurred in the Virginia suburbs. The Virginia suburbs were also responsible for 55 percent of the loss in Manufacturing and 65 percent of the decline in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate as well as 86 percent of the Services growth. The Maryland suburbs accounted for the growth in Transportation and Public Utilities.

The public sector grew at a rate of 0.7 percent with growth in State and Local Government (6,300 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (4,000 jobs). Seventy-eight percent of the State and Local Government growth was concentrated in the Maryland suburbs while 73 percent of the decline in Federal Government occurred in the Virginia suburbs.

The Area

The Washington Metropolitan Area gained 11,100 jobs between April and May for growth of 0.5 percent. The private sector accounted for 68 percent of the growth with gains primarily in Trade (3,500 jobs), Services (1,800 jobs) and Construction (1,300 jobs).

The public sector increased by 0.6 percent with gains in both Federal Government (3,000 jobs) and State and Local Government (500 jobs).

Over the year (May 1990 to May 1991), the Area

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6

declined at a rate of 1.3 percent for a loss of 28,400 jobs. The private sector, declining at a rate of 1.8 percent for a loss of 29,700 jobs, was responsible for the Area job loss. Job losses were concentrated in Construction (20,000 jobs), Trade (5,400 jobs), Manufacturing (3,300 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (3,300 jobs) while job growth primarily occurred in Services (2,300 jobs).

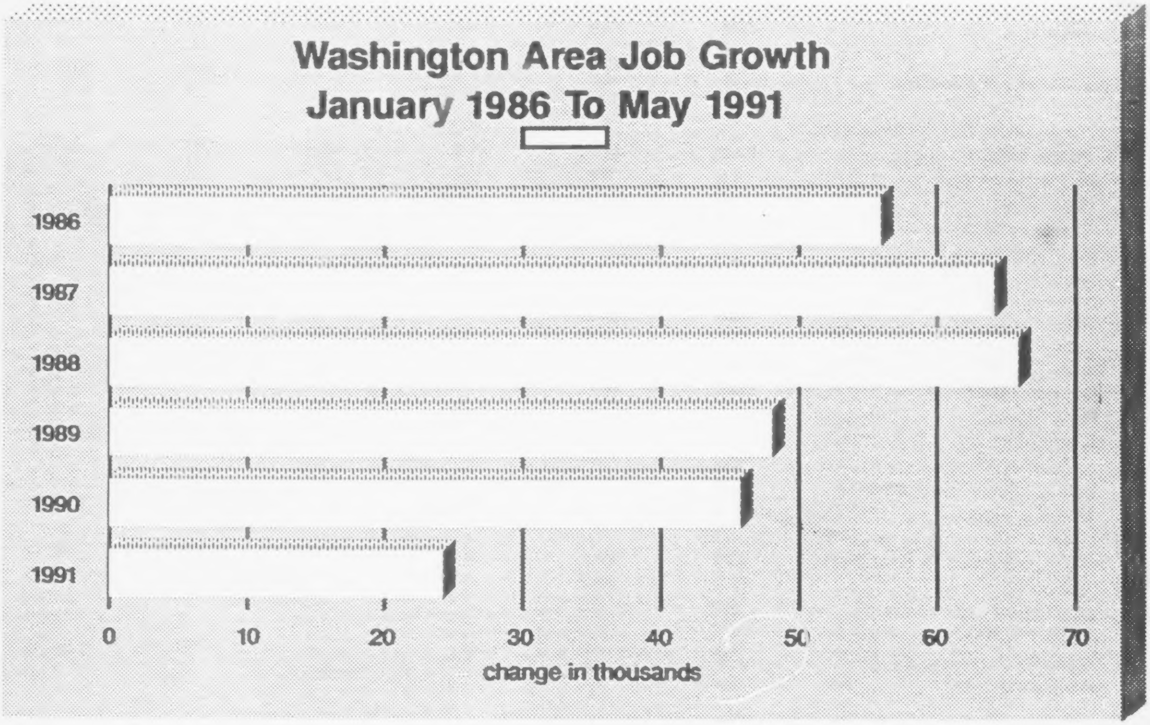
The public sector grew at a rate of 0.2 percent with gains in State and Local Government (6,100 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (4,800 jobs).

Observation

The Washington Area has added 24,300 new jobs since January of this year, a positive sign. However, Area job growth between January and May during the past five years (1986-1991) averaged 56,000 jobs. Thus, the Area's economy this spring has produced nearly 38,000 fewer new jobs than in the recent past. This year's rather anemic job growth represents yet another measure of the impact of the current recession on the labor market.

Job Growth in the Washington Metropolitan Area
January to May
1986 to 1991

Year	January	May	Change	% Change
1986	1,925,100	1,981,100	56,000	2.9
1987	2,006,900	2,071,100	64,200	3.2
1988	2,094,300	2,160,200	65,900	3.1
1989	2,176,000	2,224,100	48,100	2.2
1990	2,206,900	2,252,700	45,800	2.1
1991	2,200,000	2,224,300	24,300	1.1



Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a/]
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	May b/ 1991	Apr. c/ 1991	May d/ 1990	May b/ 1991	Apr. c/ 1991	May d/ 1990
TOTAL	**684.3**	**683.6**	**689.9**	**2,224.3**	**2,213.2**	**2,252.7**
Total Private Sector	**408.3**	**408.6**	**412.9**	**1,632.5**	**1,624.9**	**1,662.2**
Total Government	**276.0**	**275.0**	**277.0**	**591.8**	**588.3**	**590.5**
Total Goods Producing	**28.9**	**29.1**	**30.1**	**205.5**	**204.1**	**228.9**
Manufacturing	**15.4**	**15.4**	**15.6**	**84.2**	**84.2**	**87.5**
Total Durable	2.2	2.2	2.2	40.8	40.8	42.4
Stone, Clay, Glass Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.9	2.8	3.3
Electronic & Electric Equip.	N/A	N/A	N/A	18.1	18.2	17.3
All Other Durable	N/A	N/A	N/A	19.8	19.8	21.8
Total Non-Durable	13.2	13.2	13.4	43.4	43.4	45.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	4.7	4.7	4.6
Printing & Publishing	12.5	12.5	12.7	33.0	33.0	34.6
All Other Non-Durable	0.4	0.4	0.4	5.7	5.7	5.9
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**1.2**	**1.2**	**1.3**
Construction	**13.4**	**13.6**	**14.4**	**120.1**	**118.7**	**140.1**
Total Service Producing	**655.4**	**654.5**	**659.8**	**2018.8**	**2009.1**	**2023.8**
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	**23.6**	**23.5**	**24.2**	**107.9**	**107.3**	**107.8**
All Transportation	9.1	8.9	9.3	51.7	51.0	51.2
Railroads	4.1	4.1	4.2	5.3	5.3	5.3
Transportation ex. Railroad	5.0	4.8	5.1	46.4	45.7	45.9
Communications & Public Utilities	14.5	14.6	14.9	56.2	56.3	56.6
Trade	**60.6**	**60.8**	**62.3**	**429.4**	**425.9**	**434.8**
Wholesale	8.2	8.2	8.6	78.1	78.3	78.6
Retail	52.4	52.6	53.7	351.3	347.6	356.2
General Merchandise	N/A	N/A	N/A	36.0	35.4	38.2
Food Stores	N/A	N/A	N/A	50.5	50.5	50.0
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	36.2	36.0	37.5
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	28.8	28.5	28.7
Eating & Drinking Places	28.4	28.3	28.3	118.7	116.5	118.5
All Other Retail	24.0	24.3	25.4	81.1	80.7	83.3
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**32.6**	**32.7**	**33.9**	**128.0**	**127.7**	**131.3**
Finance	15.2	15.2	16.1	58.8	58.7	60.4
Depository Institutions	8.2	8.2	9.1	38.9	38.8	40.4
Other Finance	7.0	7.0	7.0	19.9	19.9	20.0
Insurance	8.0	8.0	8.0	28.5	28.5	27.9
Real Estate	9.4	9.5	9.8	40.7	40.5	43.0

Continued on page 9

Continued from page 8

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a/]

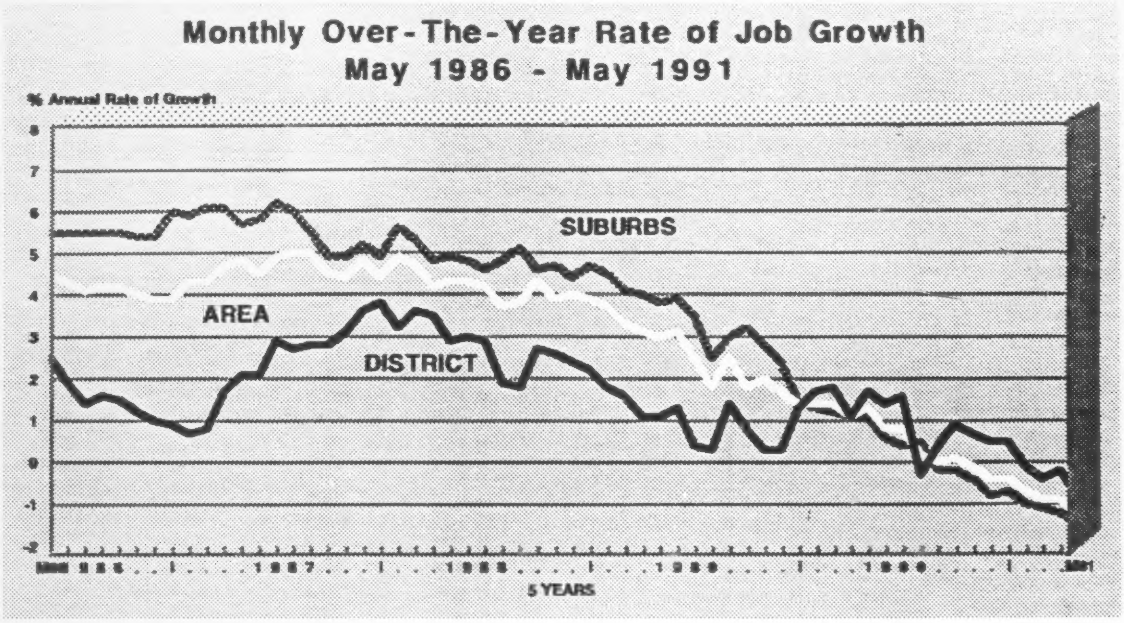
(in thousands)

INDUSTRY	District of Columbia May[b/] 1991	District of Columbia Apr.[c/] 1991	District of Columbia May[d/] 1990	Metropolitan Area May[b/] 1991	Metropolitan Area Apr.[c/] 1991	Metropolitan Area May[d/] 1990
Services	**262.6**	**262.5**	**262.4**	**761.7**	**759.9**	**759.4**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	18.2	17.5	17.9	40.6	39.0	39.2
Personal Services	3.2	3.3	3.4	22.7	23.1	22.8
Business Services	39.1	38.5	40.4	182.1	181.6	183.2
Service to Buildings	13.3	13.1	14.3	N/A	N/A	N/A
Personnel Supply	7.9	7.9	8.7	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	6.0	6.0	5.6	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Business Services	11.9	11.5	11.8	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	37.9	38.0	37.9	119.4	119.1	117.6
Legal Services	30.3	30.2	29.6	40.9	40.8	40.0
Educational Services	31.4	33.0	32.0	45.2	47.0	45.2
Social Services	13.1	13.1	12.9	37.4	37.3	35.7
Membership Organizations	34.8	34.8	33.8	63.3	63.0	62.0
Engineering/Management Ser.	44.4	44.0	44.1	145.4	145.0	148.4
All Other Services	10.2	10.1	10.4	64.7	64.0	65.3
Government	**276.0**	**275.0**	**277.0**	**591.8**	**588.3**	**590.5**
Federal Government	219.0	217.7	219.8	361.1	358.1	365.9
State & Local Government	57.0	57.3	57.2	230.7	230.2	224.6
State Government	52.2	52.5	52.4	80.9	81.4	79.3
Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	149.8	148.8	145.3
Public Transportation	4.8	4.8	4.8	N/A	N/A	N/A

a/ Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. b/ Preliminary. c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions.

Data includes all full-and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

SOURCE: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.


Monthly Over-The-Year Rate of Job Growth
May 1986 - May 1991

Area Job Growth Rates

Over the past five years (May 1986 to May 1991), the Washington Area created new jobs at a rate of 2.9 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has declined from a peak of 5.0 percent in August 1987 to a net loss of 1.3 percent in May 1991. **This marked the seventh consecutive month that the Washington Area recorded an over-the-year job loss.** This May's measurement was down from a 1.3 percent increase reported in May 1990.

For the ninth consecutive month, the suburban economy recorded an over-the-year job loss. The May loss represented a job decline of 1.5 percent from a year earlier. This suburban loss was down from the yearly growth of 1.1 percent reported in May 1990. In the District, the number of jobs decreased over the year by eight-tenths of a percentage point and represents the fourth consecutive over-the-year drop. The loss of District jobs this year compares to a growth of 1.7 percent reported in the same month a year ago.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from a peak gain during the past five years of 101,300 new jobs created between July 1986 and July 1987, to a loss of 28,400 jobs between May 1990 and this past May. Over the past year, 22,800 jobs were lost by the suburban economy, while the District lost 5,600 jobs.

The U.S. economy for the fifth month lost jobs over the year. The U.S. loss was slightly larger than local losses (a 1.4 percent decline for the U.S. economy and a 1.3 percent decline for the Washington Area).

Viewed from a slightly different perspective, job growth in the Washington Area last peaked in June of 1990 at a record high 2,271,600 jobs. Thus measured from that peak, the local economy through May has lost a total of 47,300 jobs to the current economic recession. This is a loss of 2.1 percent from the Area's record June 1990 job base.

Profile of Job Growth Rates
May 1986 to May 1991

The Area	
Average 60 months	2.9%
High, August 1987	5.0%
Low, May 1991	-1.3%
1-year ago	1.3%
Last month	-0.9%
Current month	-1.3%
The Suburbs	
Average 60 months	3.5%
High, July 1987	6.2%
Low, May 1991	-1.5%
1-year ago	1.1%
Last month	-1.2%
Current month	-1.5%
The District	
Average 60 months	1.6%
High, December 1987	3.8%
Low, May 1991	-0.8%
1-year ago	1.7%
Last month	-0.2%
Current month	-0.8%

Note: Data reflects benchmark revisions for 1989-1990.

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Department of Employment Services

Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Areas

In April 1991, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 271 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The Washington Area's April jobless rate was down 0.2 percentage point to 4.0 percent. This was the thirtieth lowest jobless rate of the 271 areas reporting. A year ago, the Washington Area rate was 2.7 percent, a 1.3 percentage point rise.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 4.0 percent was the third lowest of all the major metropolitan areas.

In April, the Baltimore Area, only 35 miles north of Washington, posted a 0.6 percentage point drop in its jobless rate, falling from 6.8 percent to 6.2 percent. The Baltimore rate was up 2.3 percentage points over the year. The Baltimore area has the twenty-ninth highest rate among the 40 selected areas tracked in the *Area Labor Summary*.

The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, recorded a 0.6 percent drop in their April jobless rate, the rate falling from 5.3 percent to 4.7 percent. Over the year, the rate was down 1.4 percentage points.

Their neighbor, the Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport area recorded a 0.9 percent point drop in their jobless rate falling from 6.4 percent to 5.5 percent. Over the year, the rate was up 1.2 percentage points.

Of the 40 selected areas, two Arizona areas—Tucson and Phoenix reported the lowest jobless rates, those being 3.1 percent and 3.9 percent, respectively. Besides the Washington Area, jobless rates between 4.0 percent and 4.9 percent were reported in 11 other large metropolitan areas.

There were 11 large metropolitan areas with rates between 5.0 and 5.9 percent. There were 10 large metropolitan areas with rates between 6.0 and 6.9 percent, 2 large metropolitan areas with rates between 7.0 and 7.9 percent and 2 large metropolitan areas with rates between 8.0 and 8.9 percent. Detroit's rate fell from 10.7 percent to 9.6 percent, a full 1.1 percentage point drop. Over the year, the rate was up 2.7 points. For the first time in many months there was no double-digit major metropolitan area in the country.

Of the 271 metropolitan areas for which April data are available, 155 had over-the-year increases of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rates. A total of 52 areas registered April 1991 rates of 8 percent or higher, while 75 had rates of 5 percent or below.

Unemployment Rates in Selected Statistical Areas

MSA	April	
	1991*	1990
1. Tucson, AR	3.1	4.2
2. Phoenix, AR	3.9	4.4
3. Washington, D.C.	**4.0**	**2.7**
4. Indianapolis, IN	4.1	3.9
5. San Francisco, CA	4.3	3.1
6. Portland, OR	4.3	3.8
7. Nashville, TN	4.3	3.7
8. Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	4.5	4.6
9. Memphis, TN	4.7	4.3
10. Richmond-Petersburg, VA	4.7	3.3
11. Denver, CO	4.7	4.7
12. Hartford, CT	4.8	4.6
13. Seattle, WA	4.9	3.4
14. Columbus, OH	4.9	4.3
15. Milwaukee, WI	5.0	3.8
16. Atlanta, GA	5.1	4.3
17. Oklahoma City, OK	5.1	4.4
18. Oakland, CA	5.3	3.9
19. New Orleans, LA	5.4	5.1
20. Louisville, KY	5.4	5.1
21. Norfolk-Virginia Beach Newport, VA	5.5	4.3
22. Kansas City, MO	5.6	4.3
23. Houston, TX	5.7	4.9
24. Cleveland, OH	5.8	4.8
25. Pittsburgh, PA	5.8	4.9
26. San Diego, CA	6.0	3.9
27. Dallas, TX	6.2	4.9
28. Philadelphia, PA	6.2	4.4
29. Baltimore, MD	6.2	3.9
30. St. Louis, MO	6.2	5.1
31. Chicago, IL	6.3	6.0
32. Montgomery, AL	6.3	5.8
33. Newark, NJ	6.3	4.8
34. Dayton, OH	6.7	5.1
35. Buffalo, NY	6.9	4.8
36. Los Angeles, CA	7.2	5.4
37. Boston, MA	7.2	4.6
38. Miami, FL	8.1	6.3
39. New York, NY	8.3	5.5
40. Detroit, MI	9.6	6.9

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

States

When the District of Columbia (with an April unemployment rate of 7.0 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the eighteenth highest jobless rate in the Country. This was six notches below the position held in March.

Maryland's rate fell from 6.0 percent to 5.6 percent in April. Maryland's rate has been improving as of recent, however, it is still 2.0 percentage points higher than April a year ago. Among the 51 jurisdictions, from highest to the lowest, Maryland ranked thirty-sixth in April compared to thirty-ninth in March.

Twenty-eight states reported over-the-year increases of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rates. The largest increase—3.7 percentage points—took place in Maine, followed by a 3.1 percentage point rise in Delaware. Alaska was the only state to report an unemployment rate decrease of at least 1 percentage point.

Five states had unemployment rates of 8 percent or above in April 1991, compared with only one a year earlier. Michigan and West Virginia, both at 9.7 percent, had the highest unemployment rates. In contrast, nine states had jobless rates of 5 percent or below in April 1991, down from 22 a year earlier. Hawaii (2.3 percent) and Nebraska (2.4 percent) continued to have the lowest rates in the nation, as they have since July 1989.

Cities

In comparison with the 26 selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with an April preliminary rate of 7.0 percent) held the fourteenth position. This was one notch below the March position when it was thirteenth. In April, the average unemployment rate for the 27 cities was 7.1 percent, compared to 5.9 percent in April.

Only nine cities reported jobless rates at or below 6 percent, with the lowest posted in Phoenix at 4.0 percent, followed by Indianapolis, Memphis and San Francisco, 4.4 percent, 4.5 percent and 4.9 percent, respectively.

Baltimore's rate fell 0.7 percent to 8.6 percent. The 8.6 percent is 2.5 percentage points higher than the 6.1 percent recorded a year ago. In April, Baltimore had the twenty-second highest rate of the 27 selected cities.

For eight consecutive months, Newark has been a double-digit unemployment rate city. Newark's rate at 11.9 percent was down 1.4 percentage points over the month, but up 2.4 percentage points over the year. Newark held the twenty-sixth position same as February and March.

Detroit's jobless rate at 13.8 percent in April was down 1.0 percentage point over the month but up 4.1 points over the year. As in March, Detroit recorded the highest rate of the 27 selected cities.

Of the 27 selected cities only four reported decreases in joblessness and twenty three reported increases in joblessness over the year. The largest over-the-year decrease was 0.9 percent reported by Hartford. Phoenix recorded a 0.5 percent decline. The largest over-the-year increases were posted by Detroit—4.1 percent and New York 3.0 percent.

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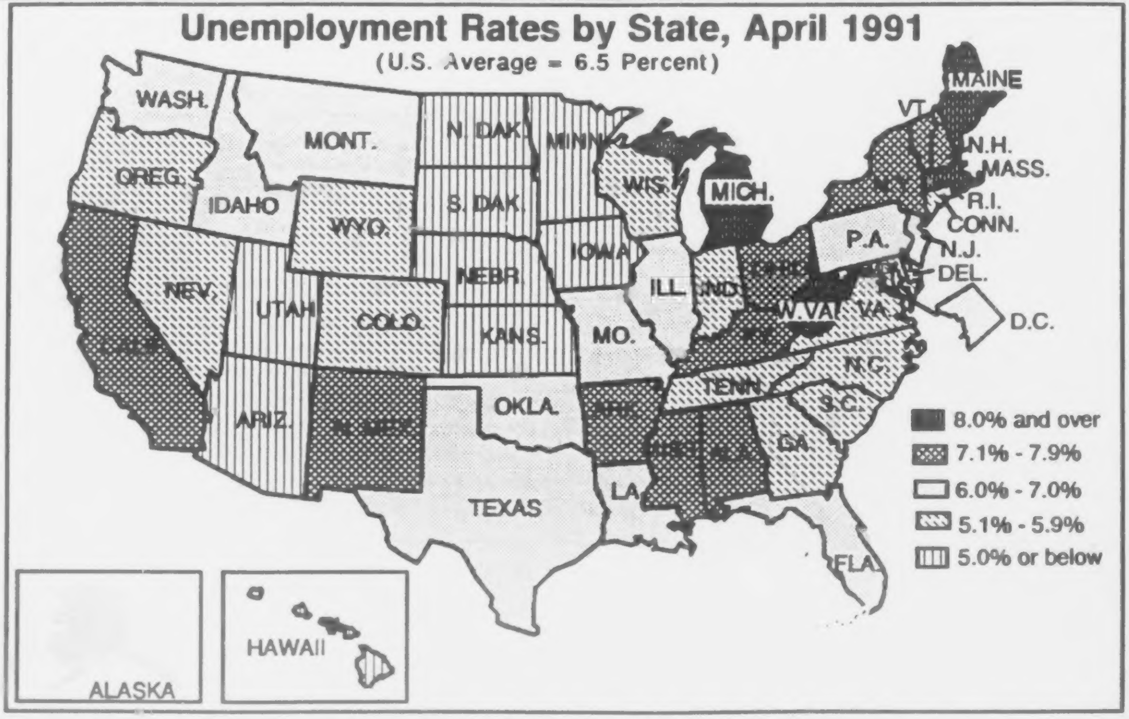


Unemployment Rates by State, April 1991

(U.S. Average = 6.5 Percent)

WASH.
MONT.
N. DAK.
MINN.
OREG.
IDAHO
WYO.
S. DAK.
WIS.
MICH.
IOWA
NEV.
UTAH
COLO.
NEBR.
KANS.
ILL.
IND.
OHIO
P.A.
MO.
ARIZ.
OKLA.
ARK.
TEXAS
LA.
TENN.
N.C.
S.C.
GA.
VA.
W.VA.
FLA.
MAINE
VT.
N.H.
MASS.
R.I.
CONN.
N.J.
DEL.
D.C.
ALASKA
HAWAII
8.0% and over
7.1% - 7.9%
6.0% - 7.0%
5.1% - 5.9%
5.0% or below

Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities

	April	
	1991*	1990
1. Phoenix, AR	4.0	4.5
2 Indianapolis, IN	4.4	4.3
3 Memphis, TN	4.5	4.4
4. San Francisco, CA	4.9	3.7
5 Columbus, OH	5.0	4.3
6 Pittsburgh, PA	5.0	4.8
7. Seattle, WA	5.1	3.6
8. Denver, CO	5.4	5.5
9 New Orleans, LA	5.5	5.3
10 Houston, TX	6.1	5.3
11. San Diego, CA	6.1	4.0
12 Milwaukee, WI	6.3	5.0
13 Atlanta, GA	6.9	6.1
14. District of Columbia	**7.0**	**6.3**
15 Dallas, TX	7.1	5.7
16 Chicago, IL	7.6	7.9
17 Boston, MA	7.7	5.0
18 Philadelphia, PA	7.8	5.9
19 Hartford, CT	7.9	8.8
20 Los Angeles, CA	8.1	6.1
21 St. Louis, MO	8.1	6.8
22 Baltimore, MD	8.6	6.1
23 New York, NY	8.9	5.9
24 Cleveland, OH	9.0	7.4
25 Miami, FL	10.0	7.7
26 Newark, NJ	11.9	9.5
27 Detroit, MI	13.8	9.7

*Preliminary unemployment rates

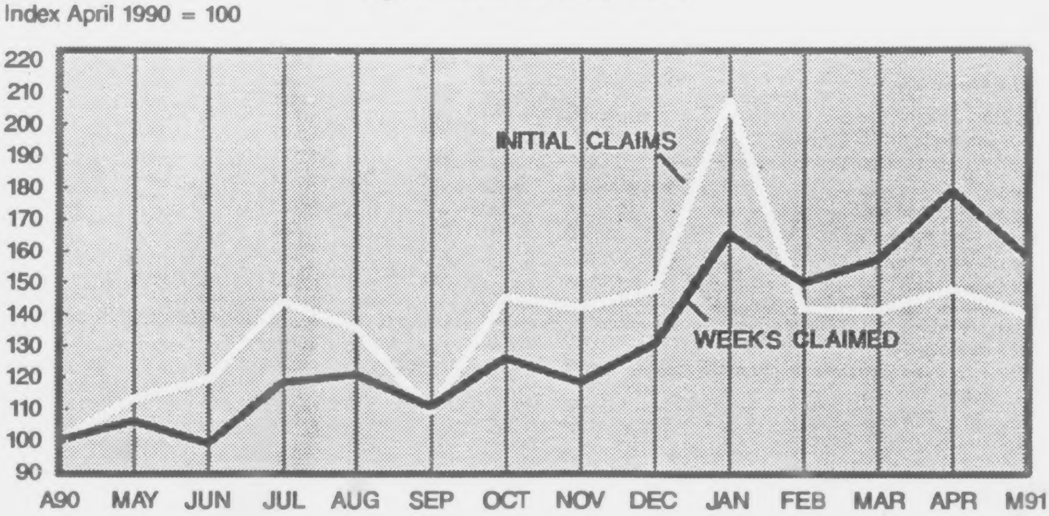
Unemployment Insurance Activities—May 1991

There were 3,790 initial claims for unemployment compensation benefits taken from former District of Columbia workers in May 1991. This amount was 5 percent below last month. Weeks claimed and weeks compensated dropped 12 and 9 percent, respectively. Outlay in benefits for the month was $12.0 million which was 8 percent below last month. **This is the first month this year when all workload measures dropped from the previous month.**

Compared to May of last year, however, all measures increased. The largest relative increase (65 percent) was registered by the dollar amount of benefits paid. The number of beneficiaries and the number of weeks actually compensated followed at 64 percent and 57 percent, respectively. Even though there was a drop in workload activity from last month, the comparisons from May of last year indicate that the claimload was much lower last year. This over-the-year comparison shows the impact of the recession on the UI Program.

During the five-month period from January 1990 to May 1990, 15,650 initial claims were filed. In the same period this year, the claims rose 34 percent to 21,040. Weeks claimed rose from 183,520 to 276,481 (51 percent), while weeks actually compensated rose 57 percent to 277,980. The average weekly benefit amount has risen from $203 to $216 during this five-month period from last year, and so has the total benefit outlay—from $35.8 million to $59.6 million. This increase is attributable to the rise in the weekly payout level and the idle weeks compensated. There was no legislated increase in the maximum benefit level this year, so the weekly payout increase is the result of the higher wage levels of the current benefit recipients.

Index of Initial and Continued Unemployment Claims
District of Columbia
April 1990 to May 1991



Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
May 1991

				% Change From	
	May 1991	Apr. 1991	May 1990	Apr. 1991	May 1990
State UI Program[a/]					
Initial Claims Taken	3,681	3,879	2,948	-5.1	+24.9
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	51,672	58,422	34,202	-11.6	+51.1
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	52,906	57,989	33,228	-8.8	+59.2
Total Benefits Paid	$11,424,547	$12,356,976	$6,807,342	-7.5	+67.8
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$215.94	$213.09	$204.87	+1.3	+5.4
Number of First Payments	2,458	2,613	1,662	-5.9	+47.9
Number of Final Payments	1,333	1,361	841	-2.1	+58.5
Total Beneficiaries	14,717	15,062	8,853	-2.3	+66.2
Federal Program[b/]					
Initial Claims Taken	77	85	76	-9.4	+1.3
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	2,108	2,345	1,666	-10.1	+26.5
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,268	2,639	1,787	-14.1	+26.9
Total Benefits Paid	$511,101	$613,398	$411,399	-16.7	+24.2
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$225.35	$232.44	$230.22	-3.1	-2.1
Number of First Payments	102	99	71	+3.0	+43.7
Number of Final Payments	75	96	76	-21.9	-1.3
Total Beneficiaries	602	664	468	-9.3	+28.6
Ex-Servicepersons Program[c/]					
Initial Claims Taken	30	32	38	-6.3	-21.1
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	271	296	342	-8.4	-20.8
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	227	251	275	-9.6	-17.5
Total Benefits Paid	$47,088	$53,875	$55,396	+12.6	-15.0
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$207.44	$214.64	$201.44	-3.4	+3.0
Number of First Payments	20	18	32	+11.1	-37.5
Number of Final Payments	16	16	14	+0.0	+14.3
Total Beneficiaries	69	68	82	+1.5	-15.9
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	3,788	3,996	3,062	-5.2	+23.7
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	54,051	61,063	36,210	-11.5	+49.3
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	55,401	60,879	35,290	-9.0	+57.0
Total Benefits Paid	$11,982,736	$13,024,249	$7,274,137	-8.0	+64.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$216.29	$213.94	$206.12	+1.1	+4.9
Number of First Payments	2,580	2,730	1,765	-5.5	+46.2
Number of Final Payments	1,424	1,473	931	-3.3	+53.0
Total Beneficiaries	15,388	15,794	9,403	-2.6	+63.6

a/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

b/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation of Ex-Serviceperson (UCX).

c/ No joint claims.

The Washington, D.C. Area Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area rose 1.1 percent during the 2 months ended in May, to a level of 140.9 (1982-84=100). **For the 12-month period ended in May, the CPI-U rose 5.1 percent.** The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose 1.2 percent from March to May. The May level of 139.6 (1982-84=100) was 5.1 percent higher than the CPI-W index in May 1990.

The 1.1 percent increase in the CPI-U from March to May follows an increase of 0.1 percent in the preceding 2-month period. Housing costs rose 2.2 percent in the 2-month period ended in May and accounted for about four-fifths of the overall CPI-U increase. The indexes for transportation and apparel and upkeep, each of which declined in the 2 months ended in March, turned up in May. Partially offsetting the acceleration in these components, prices for food and beverages declined in the 2 months ended in May and the indexes for medical care and entertainment slowed substantially.

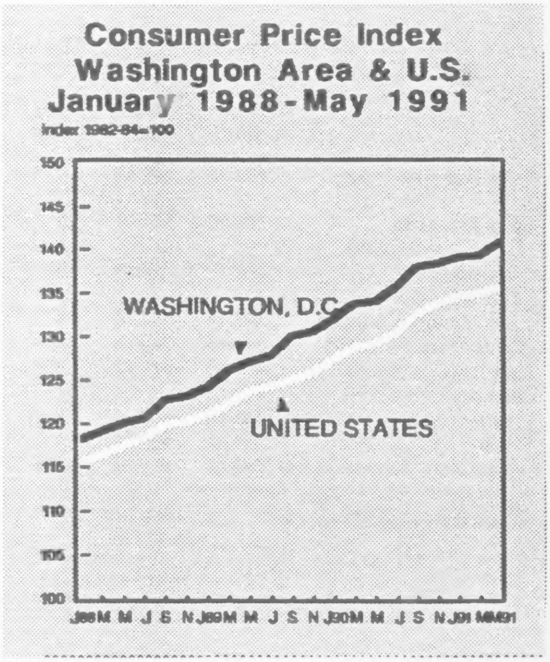
Comparing the local CPI-U with the U.S. city average, over the March-May period, the acceleration was almost three times higher locally. In the housing component, the prices of homeowners' costs increased almost six times more rapidly locally than nationally. Nationally, food and beverages and medical care prices far outpaced their local counterparts. Apparel and upkeep, transportation, entertainment and other goods and services were just about even. Energy price increases were twenty-four times higher nationally than locally.

Over the year, price increases in the two indexes were just about equal, around 5.0 percent. Except for apparel and upkeep where local prices decreased by 0.8 percent, while national prices rose by 3.1 percent, there were no big discrepancies between the two indexes.

Washington, D.C.
Area Consumer Price Index
(All Urban Consumers—CPI-U)a/

	May 1991	Percent Change 2 months Ago	Percent Change Year Ago
ALL Items			
U.S.	135.6	+0.4	+5.0
Washington Area	140.9	+1.1	+5.1
Expenditure Category			
Food & Beverages	137.1	-0.1	+3.2
Housing	142.0	+2.2	+5.5
Apparel & Upkeep	139.3	+0.4	-0.8
Transportation	124.8	+0.7	+5.9
Medical Care	175.9	+0.3	+9.9
Entertainment	141.4	+0.5	+3.3
Other Goods & Services	177.0	+0.7	+9.1
Special Index:			
Energyb/	97.5	+0.1	+3.4

a/ 1982-84=100, except as noted.
b/ June 1978=100.
SOURCE. U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; table prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff.


Consumer Price Index
Washington Area & U.S.
January 1988 - May 1991

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing average weekly earnings in the Metropolitan Area for May 1991 increased 91 cents. Average weekly hours showed a slight increase of .1 hour while average hourly earnings dropped 1 cent per hour.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Stone, Clay and Glass Products' weekly earnings increased $34.24, as weekly hours rose by 1.9 hours and hourly earnings increased by 26 cents due to overtime.

In the Non-Durable Goods Sector, less overtime worked in Food and Kindred Products caused declines of $10.97 in weekly earnings and drops of .3 hour and 18 cents, respectively, in weekly hours and hourly earnings.

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
May 1991

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May 1991	Apr. 1991	May 1990	May 1991	Apr. 1991	May 1990	May 1991	Apr. 1991	May 1990
Total Manufacturing	499.87	498.96	485.16	38.6	38.5	39.0	12.95	12.96	12.44
Durable Goods	528.36	525.01	510.92	42.1	41.9	42.4	12.55	12.53	12.05
Stone Clay & Glass Products	530.37	496.13	554.21	42.6	40.7	48.7	12.45	12.19	11.38
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	492.54	497.63	474.75	41.6	41.4	42.2	11.84	12.02	11.25
Other Durable Goods	541.43	540.59	514.18	42.2	42.3	41.2	12.83	12.78	12.48
Non-Durable Goods	478.55	479.62	464.64	35.9	35.9	36.3	13.33	13.36	12.80
Food & Kindred Products	485.93	496.90	445.11	40.8	41.1	41.1	11.91	12.09	10.83
Printing & Publishing	504.43	507.41	485.80	33.9	34.1	34.7	14.88	14.88	14.00
Other Non-Durable Goods	385.52	379.37	385.69	40.2	39.6	40.9	9.59	9.58	9.43

	May 1991	Apr. 1991	May 1990
Total Production Workers	38,000	38,200	41,100

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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR JUNE 1991

AUGUST 1991

Unemployment in the Area Exceeds 100,000
Over-the-Year Area Job Loss Continues

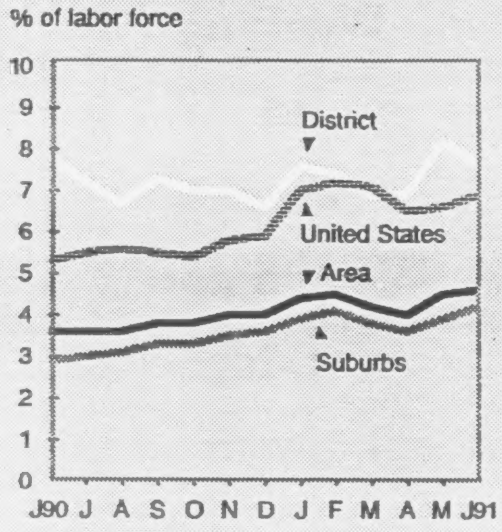
Labor Force

In June, the unemployment rate in the Washington Area and its suburban jurisdictions increased, while declining in the District. Between May and June, the Area unemployment rate added a tenth of a point, to register 4.6 percent. The suburbs added two-tenths of a percentage point to push the suburban rate up to 4.2 percent. In the District, the rate fell by six-tenths of a point, dropping the rate from 8.2 percent in May to 7.6 percent in June.

Reflecting the impact of the local recession, rates in the Area and the suburbs were up when compared to June a year ago. The over-the-year change in the Area rate was 1.0 percentage point and in the suburbs 1.3 points. In the District, there was a small two-tenths of a point decrease.

In June, 103,300 workers were unemployed in the Washington Area. This marked the first time since the recording of the Area labor statistics began in 1970, that the number of Area unemployed rose above the 100,000 mark.

The seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate among civilian workers across the United States in June measured 6.9 percent. This was up from 6.6 percent in May and up from 5.3 percent in June 1990.



Unemployment Rates
June 1990 - June 1991

Continued on page 3

Government of the
District of Columbia
Sharon Pratt Dixon

JOB SERVICE
Department of
Employment Services
Maria Borrero

The
Department
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Employment
Services

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Washington
working.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR JUNE 1991 AUGUST 1991

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Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

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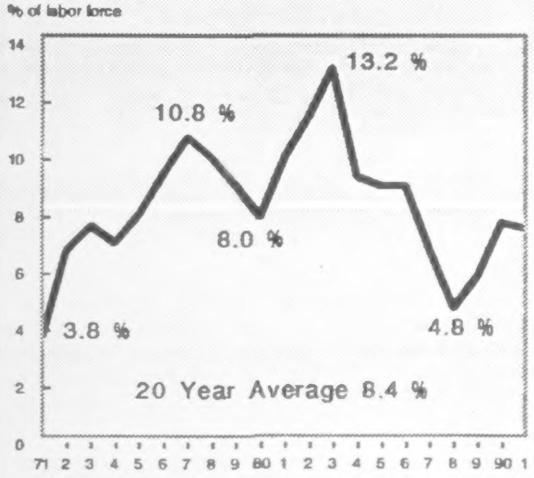
The District

In the District, the June changes were rather unusual for this time of year. Between May and June, 15,500 District residents entered the job market. Local employers added slightly more residents (15,800) to their payrolls. This hiring drew about 300 additional residents from the unemployment roster and caused the unemployment rate to decline by more than a half of a percentage point.

However, this June's pattern was much different from the traditional pattern for the month. Historically, the District's June unemployment rate registers a significant increase rather than a decrease. Only once in the past 14 years (in 1984) did the unemployment rate decline during the month. In addition, June's estimates produced the second largest June increase in the labor force and the largest June employment increase on record. Because this month's changes are so unusual, they probably should be viewed with caution until subsequent monthly estimates confirm the changes implied by the June data.

Over the year, the District's rate decreased two-tenths of a percentage point, down from 7.8 percent in June 1990 to 7.6 percent this year. The June 1990 rate already had begun showing signs of the early stages of the current recession. Thus, the over-the-year change indicates very little improvement, if any, in the condition of the District's labor market.

District Unemployment Rates In the Month of June 1971 - 1991



The Suburbs and Area

In the suburbs, the labor force grew in June by 20,200 workers. Local employers added 15,500 more workers to their payrolls. Thus, employment expansion was insufficient to absorb all the new workers. As a consequence, the suburban unemployment rolls grew by 4,700 workers. This edged the suburban unemployment rate up slightly from 4.0 percent in May to 4.2 percent in June.

The over-the-year statistics reflect more clearly the labor market changes caused by the current economic

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Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C., MSA by City and County

	June a/ 1991	May b/ 1991	June b/ 1990
1. District of Columbia	**7.6**	**8.2**	**7.8**
2. Calvert County	7.3	7.2	4.1
3. Frederick County	5.5	5.9	3.5
4. Manassas City	5.5	5.7	2.8
5. Prince Georges County	5.2	5.0	4.1
6. Stafford County	5.1	5.4	3.1
7. Charles County	4.9	4.8	3.3
8. Alexandria City	4.8	4.5	3.0
9. Manassas Park City	4.7	3.5	2.2
10. Prince William County	4.3	4.2	2.4
11. Arlington County	3.9	3.4	2.3
12. Loudoun County	3.8	3.5	1.9
13. Montgomery County	3.4	3.3	2.7
14. Fairfax County	3.4	3.1	2.3
15. Falls Church City	3.4	2.7	1.8
16. Fairfax City	2.5	2.0	2.2

a/ Preliminary b/ Revised

SOURCE: The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development and the Virginia Employment Commission

Continued from page 3

downturn. Between June of 1990 and June of 1991, the suburban labor supply added 12,700 new workers. On the other hand, local employers cutback the number of suburban workers on their payrolls by 11,500. These laid-off workers combined with the new unemployed workers raised .the unemployed pool by 24,300, an increase of 43 percent. As a result, the suburban unemployment rate during the past 12 months added 1.3 points to its base, thereby bringing the June 1991 rate to 4.2 percent of the labor force.

In June, the monthly activity in the District and the suburbs added 35,700 more workers to the Area labor supply. However, employers hired only 31,300 additional workers. Thus, Area unemployment increased by 4,700 workers producing a marginal tenth of a percentage point increase in the rate. The significant measure is the 103,200 Area residents on the jobless roster. As noted, this jobless level represents a record monthly high for the Washington Metropolitan Area.

Over the year, the impact of the recession can be seen through the 1.0 percentage point increase in the Area unemployment rate. In addition, there was only a small increase of 6,900 new workers in the labor supply, just three-tenths of a percent. However, over the past 12 months, 16,500 Area residents lost their jobs. As a result of the lost employment and small increase in the labor force, 23,400 more Area residents were on the jobless rolls when compared to June 1990, a significant increase of 29.0 percent.

In general, the labor statistics for June, especially in the District, show some signs of an improving job market, but given the past historical patterns for June, the data should be viewed with some caution until the changes are confirmed by future monthly estimates.

Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA
June 1991[a]

	June[b] 1991	May[c] 1991	June[d] 1990	May[d] 1990	Net Change from May 1991	Net Change from June 1990
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	294,300	278,800	300,100	297,800	15,500	-5,800
Total Employed	271,800	256,000	276,800	278,300	15,800	-5,000
Total Unemployed	22,500	22,800	23,400	19,600	-300	-900
Unemployment Rate[e]	7.6	8.2	7.8	6.6	-0.6	-0.2
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,939,000	1,918,800	1,926,300	1,913,900	20,200	12,700
Total Employed	1,858,300	1,842,800	1,869,800	1,866,000	15,500	-11,500
Total Unemployed	80,700	76,000	56,400	47,900	4,700	24,300
Unemployment Rate[e]	4.2	4.0	2.9	2.5	0.2	1.3
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,233,300	2,197,600	2,226,400	2,211,700	35,700	6,900
Total Employed	2,130,100	2,098,800	2,146,600	2,144,300	31,300	-16,500
Total Unemployed	103,200	98,800	79,800	67,500	4,400	23,400
Unemployment Rate[e]	4.6	4.5	3.6	3.1	0.1	1.0

a/ Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding. b/ Preliminary.
c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions. e/ Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia, the Virginia Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun and Stafford; and the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick and Calvert.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

In June 1991, 57 percent of all UI claimants were males. Occupationally, professional, technical and managerial workers accounted for 27 percent of the total workers. This was followed by 24 percent in clerical and sales and 19 percent each in structural and service workers. The remaining 11 percent was distributed between machine trades, bench work, processing and miscellaneous workers.

The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 11.3 weeks for all claimants in June. Over the month, the duration for males rose from 10.9 weeks to 11.6 weeks, while for females the duration rose from 10.6 weeks to 10.9 weeks. A year ago, the duration was 10.6 weeks for males and 9.1 weeks for females.

Labor Force Distribution Washington Metropolitan Area June 1991 & June 1990

(percent)

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
		JUNE 1991	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.2	12.8	21.8
Suburbs	86.8	87.2	78.2
		JUNE 1990	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.5	12.9	29.3
Suburbs	86.5	87.1	70.7

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Job Growth

The District

The number of jobs in the District increased by 4,900 for a growth rate of 0.7 percent between May and June. The public sector was responsible for 86 percent of the growth with a seasonal gain of 4,500 jobs in the Federal Government.

The private sector increased by 700 with gains primarily in Trade (600 jobs). Services gained 100 jobs as growth in Legal Services (1,000 jobs) and Engineering and Management Services (300 jobs) was partially offset by a seasonal loss in Educational Services (1,100 jobs).

Over the year (June 1990 to June 1991), the number of District jobs declined 1.1 percent for a loss of 7,600 jobs. **The private sector decreased at a rate of 1.5 percent for a loss of 6,200 jobs.** Losses were primarily concentrated in Trade (1,700 jobs), Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,600 jobs) and Construction (1,200 jobs).

The public sector lost 1,400 jobs with declines in both Federal Government (1,100 jobs) and State and Local Government (300 jobs). The Federal job loss continues to reflect lower Census employment levels this year.

The Suburbs

The number of suburban jobs increased by 0.6 percent for a gain of 8,700 jobs between May and June. The private sector was responsible for the growth with gains in Services (6,000 jobs) and Trade (2,800 jobs). The Maryland suburbs were responsible for 68 percent of the Services growth and 54 percent of the increase in Trade.

The public sector decreased by 2,100 jobs with losses in State and Local Government (3,300 jobs) partially offset by a gain in Federal Government (1,200 jobs). The Maryland suburbs accounted for 88 percent of the loss in State and Local Government while the Virginia suburbs were responsible for 58 percent of the gain in Federal Government.

Over the year (June 1990 to June 1991), suburban jobs declined at a rate of 1.8 percent for a loss of 27,700 jobs. **The Maryland suburbs declined at a rate of 0.4 percent while the Virginia suburbs decreased at a rate of 3.1 percent.**

The private sector, declining at a rate of 2.4 percent, accounted for the loss in suburban jobs with three-fourths of the decline in the goods-producing sector (22,500 jobs). Job losses were concentrated in Construction (18,800 jobs), Trade (4,700 jobs), Manufacturing (3,600 jobs), and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (2,400 jobs) while the only job gain occurred in Transportation and Public Utilities (100 jobs). Seventy-three percent of the Construction loss and all of the decline in Trade occurred in the Virginia suburbs. The Virginia suburbs also were responsible for 56 percent of the loss in Manufacturing and 63 percent of the decline in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate. The Maryland suburbs accounted for the growth in Transportation and Public Utilities.

The public sector grew at a rate of 0.7 percent with growth in State and Local Government (5,600 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (3,400 jobs). Sixty-eight percent of the State and Local Government growth was concentrated in the Maryland suburbs while 65 percent of the decline in Federal Government occurred in the Virginia suburbs.

The Area

The Washington Metropolitan Area gained 13,600 jobs between May and June for growth of 0.6 percent. The private sector accounted for 85 percent of the growth with gains primarily in Services (6,100 jobs) and Trade (3,400 jobs).

The public sector increased by 0.4 percent with gains in Federal Government (5,700 jobs) partially offset by losses in State and Local Government (3,600 jobs).

Over the year (June 1990 to June 1991), the Area declined at a rate of 1.6 percent for a loss of 35,300

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jobs. The private sector, declining at a rate of 2.2 percent for a loss of 36,100 jobs, was responsible for the Area job loss. Job losses, occurring throughout the private sector, were primarily concentrated in Construction (20,000 jobs), Trade (6,400 jobs), Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (4,000 jobs) and Manufacturing (3,900 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 0.1 percent with gains in State and Local Government (5,300 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (4,500 jobs).

Observation

Since January, the Washington Area has added 36,300 new jobs, a positive sign. However, this year's growth has been weak when compared to the recent past. For example, job growth between January and June during the past five years (1986-1991) averaged 79,300 jobs. Thus, for the first six months of this year, the Area's economy has produced 43,000 fewer new jobs than in the recent past. This year's job growth performance through the first six months represents yet another measure of the impact of the current recession on the labor market.

Job Growth in The Washington Metropolitan Area January to June 1986 to 1991

Year	January	June	Change	%Change
1986	1,925,100	1,999,500	74,400	3.9
1987	2,006,900	2,097,200	90,300	4.5
1988	2,094,300	2,184,700	90,400	4.3
1989	2,176,000	2,252,900	76,900	3.5
1990	2,206,900	2,271,600	64,700	2.9
1991	2,200,000	2,236,300	36,300	1.7

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a]
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	June[b] 1991	May[c] 1991	June[d] 1990	June[b] 1991	May[c] 1991	June[d] 1990
TOTAL	**688.4**	**683.5**	**696.0**	**2,236.3**	**2,222.7**	**2,271.6**
Total Private Sector	**408.2**	**407.5**	**414.4**	**1,642.4**	**1,630.9**	**1,678.5**
Total Government	**280.2**	**276.0**	**281.6**	**593.9**	**591.8**	**593.1**
Total Goods Producing	**28.8**	**28.8**	**30.3**	**206.2**	**205.3**	**230.2**
Manufacturing	**15.4**	**15.4**	**15.7**	**84.5**	**84.2**	**88.4**
Total Durable	2.2	2.2	2.2	40.8	40.8	42.8
Stone, Clay, Glass Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.9	2.8	3.3
Electronic & Electric Equip.	N/A	N/A	N/A	18.0	18.2	17.6
All Other Durable	N/A	N/A	N/A	19.9	19.8	21.9
Total Non-Durable	13.2	13.2	13.5	43.7	43.4	45.6
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	4.8	4.7	4.7
Printing & Publishing	12.5	12.5	12.8	33.1	33.0	34.9
All Other Non-Durable	0.4	0.4	0.4	5.8	5.7	6.0
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**1.2**	**1.2**	**1.3**
Construction	**13.3**	**13.3**	**14.5**	**120.5**	**119.9**	**140.5**
Total Service Producing	**659.6**	**654.7**	**665.7**	**2030.1**	**2017.4**	**2041.4**
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	**23.7**	**23.6**	**24.3**	**108.5**	**107.7**	**103.0**
All Transportation	9.2	9.1	9.5	52.2	51.7	52.1
Railroads	4.1	4.1	4.2	5.3	5.3	5.3
Transportation ex. Railroad	5.1	5.0	5.3	46.9	46.4	46.8
Communications & Public Utilities	14.5	14.5	14.8	56.3	56.0	56.9

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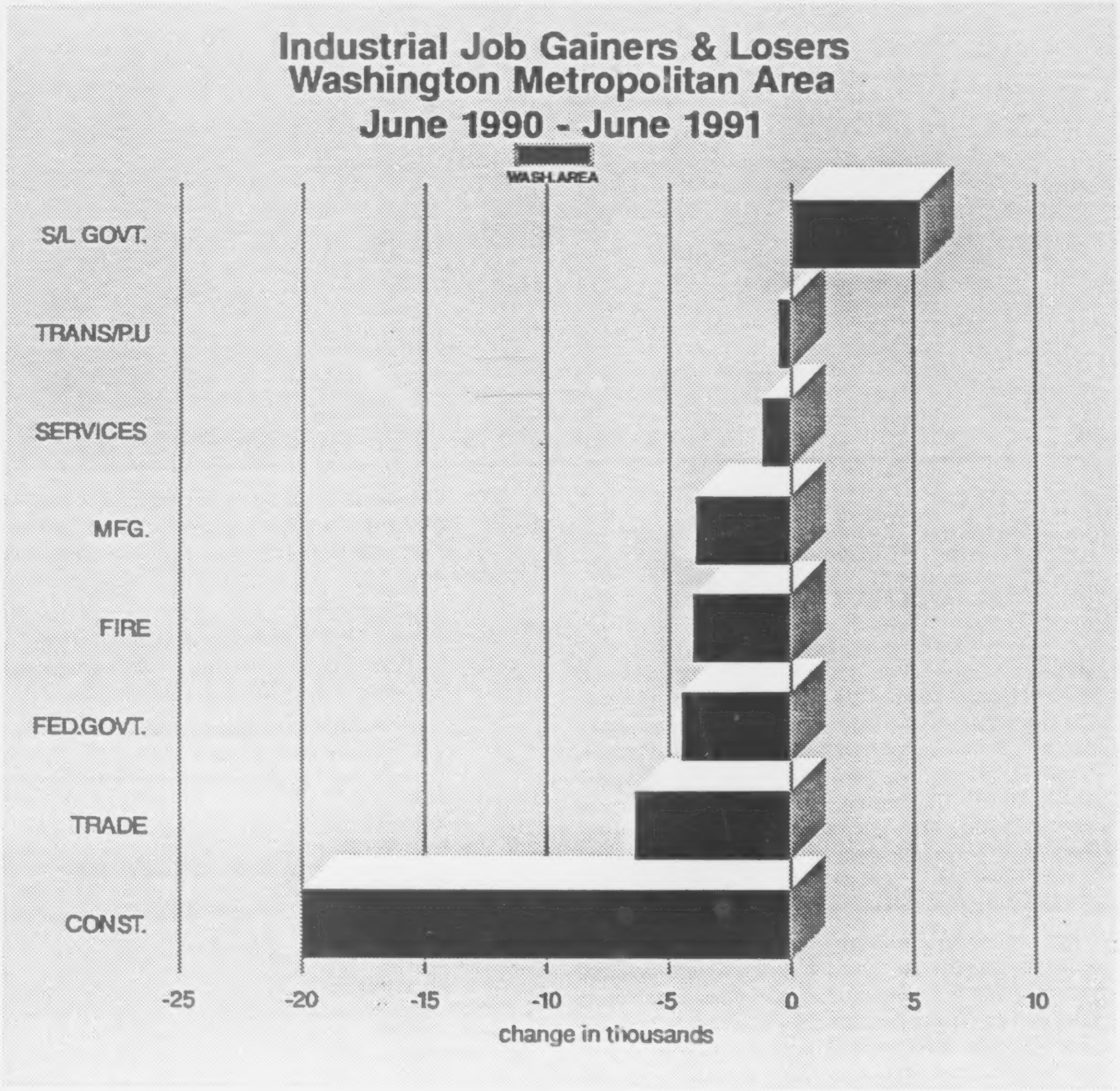
Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work a/
(in thousands)

INDUSTRY	District of Columbia June b/ 1991	District of Columbia May c/ 1991	District of Columbia June d/ 1990	Metropolitan Area June b/ 1991	Metropolitan Area May c/ 1991	Metropolitan Area June d/ 1990
Trade	**61.0**	**60.4**	**62.7**	**431.8**	**428.4**	**438.2**
Wholesale	8.3	8.2	8.5	78.7	78.1	78.8
Retail	52.7	52.2	54.2	353.1	350.3	359.4
General Merchandise	N/A	N/A	N/A	36.9	36.1	39.0
Food Stores	N/A	N/A	N/A	50.0	50.0	50.4
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	36.4	36.1	37.6
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	28.8	28.5	29.0
Eating & Drinking Places	28.6	28.3	28.7	120.2	118.6	120.4
All Other Retail	24.1	23.9	25.5	80.8	81.0	83.0
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**32.5**	**32.6**	**34.1**	**128.4**	**128.1**	**132.4**
Finance	15.0	15.2	16.2	58.9	58.9	61.0
Depository Institutions	8.1	8.2	9.1	39.1	39.0	40.9
Other Finance	6.9	7.0	7.1	19.8	19.9	20.1
Insurance	8.0	8.0	8.1	28.5	28.5	28.2
Real Estate	9.5	9.4	9.8	41.0	40.7	43.2
Services	**262.2**	**262.1**	**263.0**	**767.5**	**761.4**	**768.7**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	18.0	1[illegible].2	17.7	41.0	40.5	39.4
Personal Services	3.2	3.3	3.4	22.5	22.7	22.6
Business Services	38.6	38.9	40.2	182.5	182.0	184.4
Service to Buildings	13.2	13.3	14.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Personnel Supply	7.5	7.8	8.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	6.0	6.0	5.7	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Business Services	11.9	11.8	11.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	37.9	37.8	39.0	119.7	119.3	119.1
Legal Services	31.2	30.2	30.9	42.1	40.8	41.7
Educational Services	30.4	31.5	[illegible].5	43.4	45.2	42.3
Social Services	13.2	13.1	[illegible]2.9	37.6	37.5	35.6
Membership Organizations	34.9	34.7	34.2	63.6	63.2	62.6
Engineering/Management Ser.	44.5	44.2	44.8	145.9	145.2	149.9
All Other Services	10.3	10.2	10.4	69.2	65.0	71.1
Government	**280.2**	**276.0**	**281.6**	**593.9**	**591.8**	**593.1**
Federal Government	223.5	219.0	224.6	366.8	361.1	371.3
State & Local Government	56.7	57.0	57.0	227.1	230.7	221.8
State Government	51.9	52.2	52.2	78.9	80.9	78.2
Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	148.2	149.8	143.6
Public Transportation	4.8	4.8	4.8	N/A	N/A	N/A

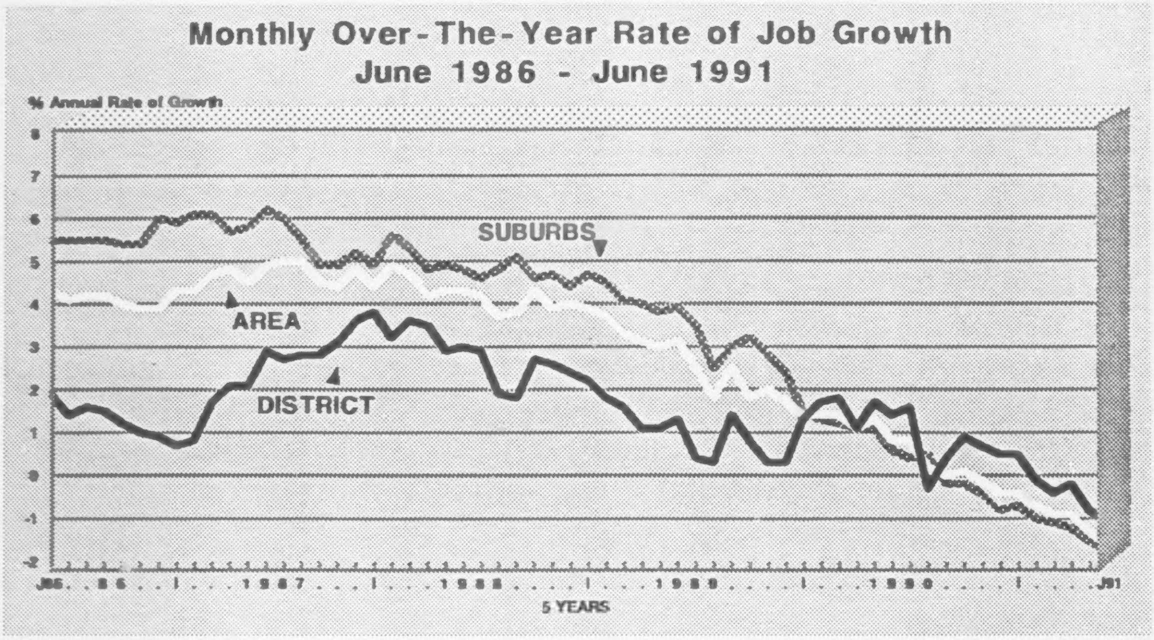
a/ Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. b/ Preliminary.
c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions.

Data includes all full-and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

SOURCE: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Industrial Job Gainers & Losers
Washington Metropolitan Area
June 1990 - June 1991



Monthly Over-The-Year Rate of Job Growth
June 1986 - June 1991

Area Job Growth Rates

Over the past five years (June 1986 to June 1991), the Washington Area created new jobs at a rate of 2.8 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has declined from a peak of 5.0 percent in August 1987 to a net loss of 1.6 percent in June 1991. **This marked the eighth consecutive month that the Washington Area recorded an over-the-year job loss.** This June's measurement was down from a 0.8 percent increase reported in June 1990.

For the tenth consecutive month, the suburban economy recorded an over-the-year job loss. The June loss represented a job decline of 1.8 percent from a year earlier. This suburban loss was down from the yearly growth of 0.4 percent reported in June 1990. In the District, the number of jobs decreased over the year by 1.1 percent and represents the fifth consecutive over-the-year drop. The loss of District jobs this year compares to a growth of 1.6 percent reported in the same month a year ago.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from a peak gain during the past five years of 101,300 new jobs created between July 1986 and July 1987, to a loss of 35,300 jobs between June 1990 and this past June. Over the past year, 27,700 jobs were lost by the suburban economy, while the District lost 7,600 jobs.

The U.S. economy for the sixth month lost jobs over the year. The U.S. loss was slightly larger than local losses (a 1.8 percent decline for the U.S. economy and a 1.6 percent decline for the Washington Area).

Profile of Job Growth Rates
June 1986 to June 1991

The Area	
Average 60 months	2.8%
High, August 1987	5.0%
Low, June 1991	-1.6%
1-year ago	0.8%
Last month	-1.3%
Current month	-1.6%
The Suburbs	
Average 60 months	3.4%
High, July 1987	6.2%
Low, June 1991	-1.8%
1-year ago	0.4%
Last month	-1.5%
Current month	-1.8%
The District	
Average 60 months	1.6%
High, December 1987	3.8%
Low, June 1991	-1.1%
1-year ago	1.6%
Last month	-0.9%
Current month	-1.1%

NOTE: Data reflects benchmark revisions for 1989-1990

Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Areas

In May 1991, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 271 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The Washington Area May jobless rate was up 0.5 percentage point to 4.5 percent. This was the forty-second lowest jobless rate of the 271 areas reporting. A year ago, the Washington Area rate was 3.1 percent. This represents a 1.4 percentage point increase since May 1990.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 4.5 percent was the fifth lowest of all the major metropolitan areas.

In May, the Baltimore Area, only 35 miles north of Washington, posted a 0.4 percentage point rise in their jobless rate, climbing from 6.2 percent to 6.6 percent. The Baltimore rate was up 2.5 percentage points over the year. The Baltimore area had the thirty-first highest rate among the 40 selected areas tracked in the *Area Labor Summary.*

The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, reported that their May jobless rate rose from 4.7 percent in April to 5.1 percent in May. Over the year, the rate was up 0.3 of a percentage point.

Their neighbor, Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport May's jobless rate remained relatively unchanged at 5.6 percent. A year ago, the rate was 4.5 percent.

As in April, of the 40 selected areas, two Arizona areas—Tucson and Phoenix reported the lowest jobless rates, those being 2.8 percent and 3.7 percent, respectively. Besides the Washington Area, jobless rates between 4.0 percent and 4.9 percent were reported in 9 other large metropolitan areas.

There were 12 large metropolitan areas with rates between 5.0 and 5.9 percent. There were 10 large metropolitan areas with rates between 6.0 and 6.9 percent, 1 large metropolitan area with a rate between 7.0 and 7.9 percent and 4 large metropolitan areas with rates between 8.0 and 8.9 percent. Detroit, at 9.1 percent, was the only area recording a rate above 9.0 percent. For the second time in many months there was no double-digit major metropolitan area in the country.

Of the 271 metropolitan areas for which May data are available, 153 had over-the-year increases of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rates. A total of 47 areas had jobless rates of 8 percent or higher, while 67 had rates of 5 percent or below.

Unemployment Rates in Selected Statistical Areas

MSA	May	
	1991*	1990
1. Tucson, AR	2.8	4.2
2. Phoenix, AR	3.7	4.5
3. Columbus, OH	4.0	4.4
4. Indianapolis, IN	4.4	3.7
5. Washington, D.C.	**4.5**	**3.1**
6. San Francisco, CA	4.5	3.3
7. Portland, OR	4.6	3.9
8. Seattle, WA	4.6	3.3
9. Cleveland, OH	4.6	4.8
10. Hartford, CT	4.8	4.5
11. Milwaukee, WI	4.8	4.0
12. Dayton, OH	4.8	5.3
13. Denver, CO	5.0	4.6
14. Nashville, TN	5.1	4.0
15. Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	5.1	4.2
16. Richmond-Petersburg, VA	5.1	4.8
17. Houston, TX	5.5	5.2
18. Oakland, CA	5.6	4.1
19. Norfik-Virg'ia Bch-Newprt, VA	5.6	4.5
20. Memphis, TN	5.7	4.7
21. Atlanta, GA	5.7	4.5
22. Kansas City, MO	5.7	4.3
23. Dallas, TX	5.7	5.2
24. Chicago, IL	5.9	5.4
25. Oklahoma City, OK	6.0	5.1
26. New Orleans, LA	6.0	5.7
27. Montgomery, AL	6.2	5.8
28. Pittsburgh, PA	6.3	4.4
29. San Diego, CA	6.4	4.4
30. Louisville, KY	6.5	4.8
31. Baltimore, MD	6.6	4.1
32. St. Louis, MO	6.6	5.0
33. Newark, NJ	6.8	5.1
34. Buffalo, NY	6.9	4.5
35. Philadelphia, PA	7.1	4.2
36. Boston, MA	8.1	4.4
37. New York, NY	8.3	6.3
38. Los Angeles, CA	8.4	5.4
39. Miami, FL	8.8	6.2
40. Detroit, MI	9.1	7.0

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

States

When the District of Columbia (with a May unemployment rate of 8.2 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the sixth highest jobless rate in the Country. This was twelve notches above the position held in April.

Maryland's rate rose 0.2 percentage point, rising from 5.6 percent to 5.8 percent. Maryland's rate has been improving as of recent, however, it is still 2.0 percentage points higher than May a year ago. Among the 51 jurisdictions, from highest to the lowest, Maryland ranked thirty-fourth in May compared to thirty-sixth in April and thirty-ninth in March.

Virginia's rate rose 0.1 percentage point, rising from 5.4 percent to 5.5 percent. A year ago, Virginia's rate was 4.0 percent. Virginia ranked thirty-eighth among the 51 jurisdictions.

Thirty states and the District of Columbia reported over-the-year increases in their unemployment rates of 1 percentage point or more. The largest increases took place in Maine and Massachusetts—both up 4.1 percentage points. Arizona, with a drop of 1.1 percentage points, was the only state to report an unemployment decrease of at least 1 percentage point.

Six states and the District of Columbia had May 1991 unemployment rates of 8 percent or above, compared with none a year earlier. Massachusetts, at 9.2 percent, and Michigan, at 9.0 percent, experienced the highest unemployment rates. Nine states had jobless rates of 5 percent or below in May 1991, down from 24 states a year earlier. Nebraska (2.6 percent) and Hawaii (2.8 percent) continued to have the lowest rates, as has been the case since July.

Cities

In comparison with the 26 selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with a May preliminary rate of 8.2 percent) held the eighteenth position. This was four notches above the April position when it was fourteenth. In May, the average unemployment rate for the 27 cities was 7.4 percent, compared to 6.1 percent last May.

Only ten cities reported jobless rates at or below 6 percent, with the lowest posted in Phoenix at 3.8 percent, followed by Columbus—4.2 percent, Indianapolis—4.8 percent and Seattle—4.9 percent. This is the first time in many a year that the San Francisco rate was at 5.0 percent.

Baltimore's rate rose 0.9 point to 9.5 percent. The 9.5 percent is 3.0 percentage points higher than the 6.5 percent recorded a year ago. In May, Baltimore had the fourth highest rate of the 27 selected cities.

For nine consecutive months, Newark has been a double-digit unemployment rate city. Newark's rate at 12.6 percent was up 0.7 percentage point over the month and up 2.7 percentage points over the year. In February, March and April, Newark held the twenty-sixth position. In May, Newark had the highest rate of the selected cities and held the twenty-seventh position.

Detroit's jobless rate fell from 13.8 percent in April to 12.5 percent in May. Detroit's May rate is 1.3 percentage points lower than April, but 2.4 percentage points higher than May a year ago. Detroit exchanged positions with Newark and held the twenty-sixth position among the 27 selected cities.

Of the 27 selected central cities, only four reported decreases in joblessness and twenty three reported increases in joblessness over the year. These numbers are identical to April. The largest over-the-year decreases were in Phoenix and Hartford, 0.8 percent and 0.7 percent, respectively. Five of the twenty-seven selected cities reported over-the-year increases in joblessness of 3.0 percent and above. Boston led the way with a 4.1 percent increase. This was followed by Philadelphia—3.6 percent, Los Angeles—3.3 percent, Miami—3.1 percent and Baltimore—3.0 percent.

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EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

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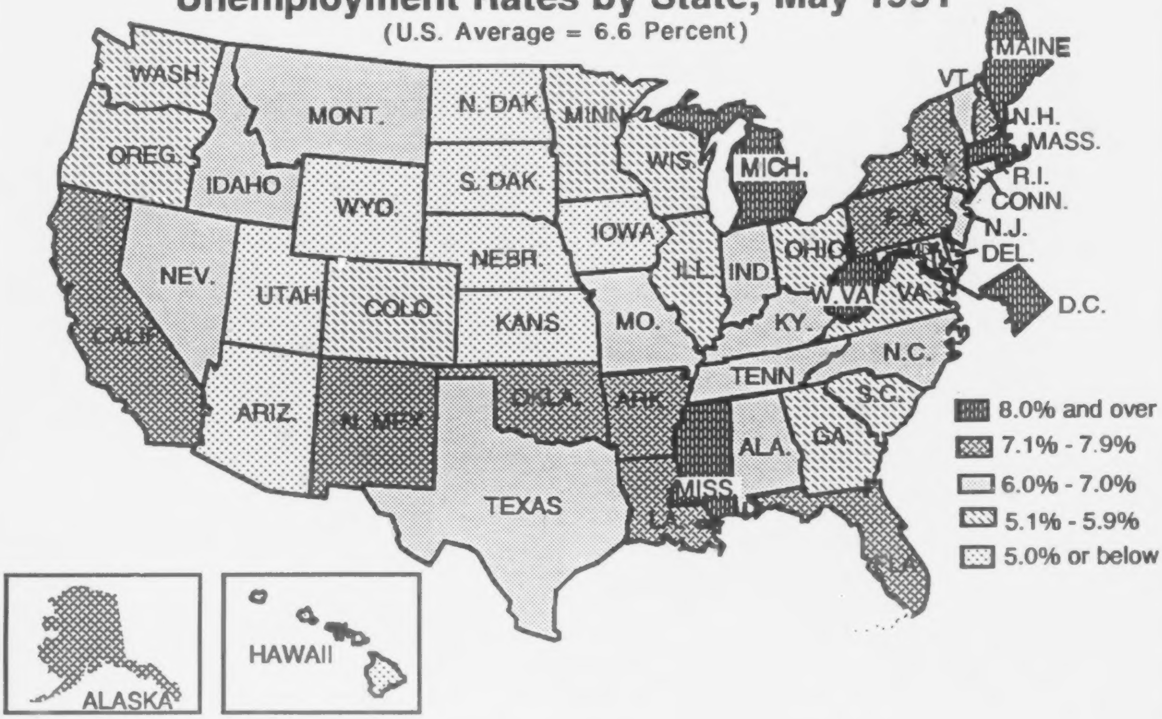
Unemployment Rates by State, May 1991

(U.S. Average = 6.6 Percent)


WASH.
MONT.
N. DAK.
MINN.
OREG.
IDAHO
S. DAK.
WIS.
MICH.
WYO.
IOWA
NEV.
NEBR.
ILL.
IND.
OHIO
UTAH
COLO.
KANS.
MO.
KY.
W.VA.
VA.
CALIF.
TENN.
N.C.
ARIZ.
N. MEX.
OKLA.
ARK.
S.C.
ALA.
GA.
MISS.
TEXAS
LA.
FLA.
MAINE
VT.
N.H.
MASS.
N.Y.
R.I.
CONN.
PA.
N.J.
DEL.
MD.
D.C.
ALASKA
HAWAII
8.0% and over
7.1% - 7.9%
6.0% - 7.0%
5.1% - 5.9%
5.0% or below

Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities

	May 1991	May 1990
1. Phoenix, AR	3.8	4.6
2. Columbus, OH	4.2	4.6
3. Indianapolis, IN	4.8	4.0
4. Seattle, WA	4.9	3.6
5. San Francisco, CA	5.0	3.9
6. Pittsburgh, PA	5.8	4.3
7. Denver, CO	5.8	5.3
8. Memphis, TN	5.9	4.9
9. Houston, TX	5.9	5.7
10. Milwaukee, WI	6.0	5.2
11. New Orleans, LA	6.2	6.0
12. San Diego, CA	6.4	4.4
13. Dallas, TX	6.6	6.1
14. Chicago, IL	7.2	7.0
15. Cleveland, OH	7.2	7.6
16. Atlanta, GA	7.9	6.5
17. Hartford, CT	8.1	8.8
18. District of Columbia	**8.2**	**6.6**
19. Boston, MA	8.9	4.8
20. New York, NY	8.9	6.9
21. Philadelphia, PA	9.1	5.5
22. Los Angeles, CA	9.4	6.1
23. St. Louis, MO	9.5	7.3
24. Baltimore, MD	9.5	6.5
25. Miami, FL	10.8	7.7
26. Detroit, MI	12.5	10.1
27. Newark, NJ	12.6	9.9

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

Labor Force Profile:

Annual Status of the Area's Labor Force—1990

Annual average unemployment in 1990 was 3.4 percent in the Washington Metropolitan Area. In the District, unemployment for the year averaged 6.6 percent and in the suburbs 2.9 percent. The annual average for the United States was 5.5 percent.

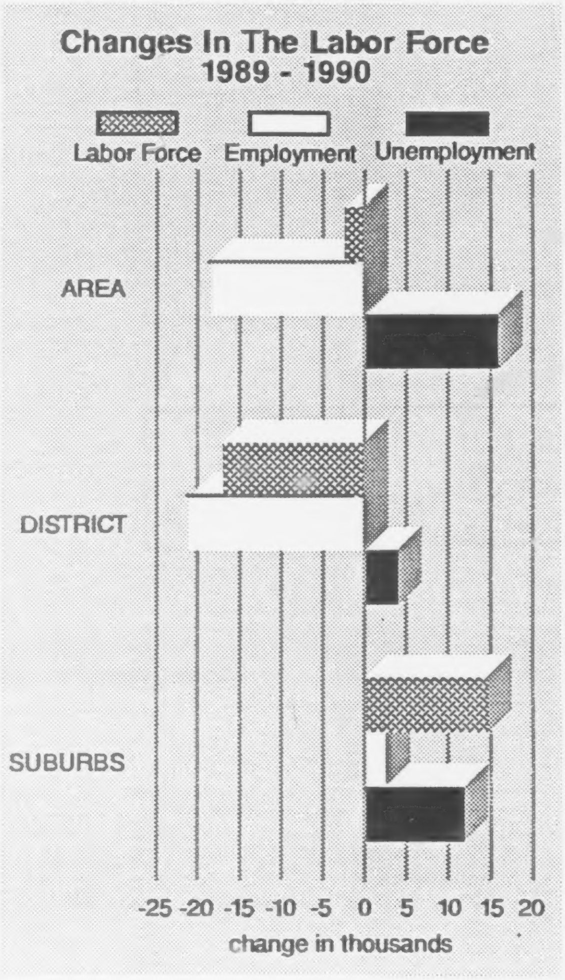
These measurements of unemployment reflect a year that saw the start of a national and a local recession. During the first six months of the year, local unemployment was relatively low, averaging 3.0 percent in the Area, 6.6 percent in the District and 2.5 percent in the suburbs. During the last six months, the averages increased to 3.8 percent in the Area, 7.0 percent in the District and 3.3 in the suburbs.

These annual averages are from the statistical time series: "Local Area Unemployment Statistics." The estimates are produced by the Department of Employment Services in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, The Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Changes in Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment: 1989 to 1990

During 1990, the Washington Area labor supply recorded a small decline of 2,400 workers in a labor force of 2.2 million workers. The Washington suburbs, however, actually added 14,600 new workers. All of the loss in the labor supply occurred in the District. The District's labor force dropped from 315,000 workers in 1989 to 298,000 in 1990, a loss of 17,000 workers, or 5.4 percent. This decline in the City's labor supply probably represents two factors: First, a decline in the size of the working-age population and second, a decrease in labor force participation. Unemployed workers traditionally become discouraged during recessions and stop actively looking for work.

The number of Area residents with jobs also declined during the year falling from 2,152,800 to 2,134,400, a decrease of 18,400 jobholders, or a decline of nearly one percent. Mirroring the labor force change, jobholding by suburbanites increased slightly by 2,600 (0.1 percent). But this suburban increase was offset by a relatively large loss of 21,000 jobs held by people living in the District—a decline in employment of 7.0 percent.


Changes In The Labor Force
1989 - 1990

As a result of labor force and employment changes, the Area's roster for unemployment increased over the year by 15,900 or a significant 26.7 percent. Unlike changes in the labor supply and employment, however, most of the increase in Area unemployment (75 percent) occurred among persons living in the suburbs. Of the 15,900 increase in Area jobless workers, 11,900 were suburbanites and only 4,000 were District residents.

The 3.4 percent annual unemployment rate for the Washington Area was the highest annual rate in four years, not since 1986, when the annual rate was also 3.4 percent. The 6.6 percent rate recorded in the District was also the highest annual rate since 1986, when the rate averaged 7.7 percent.

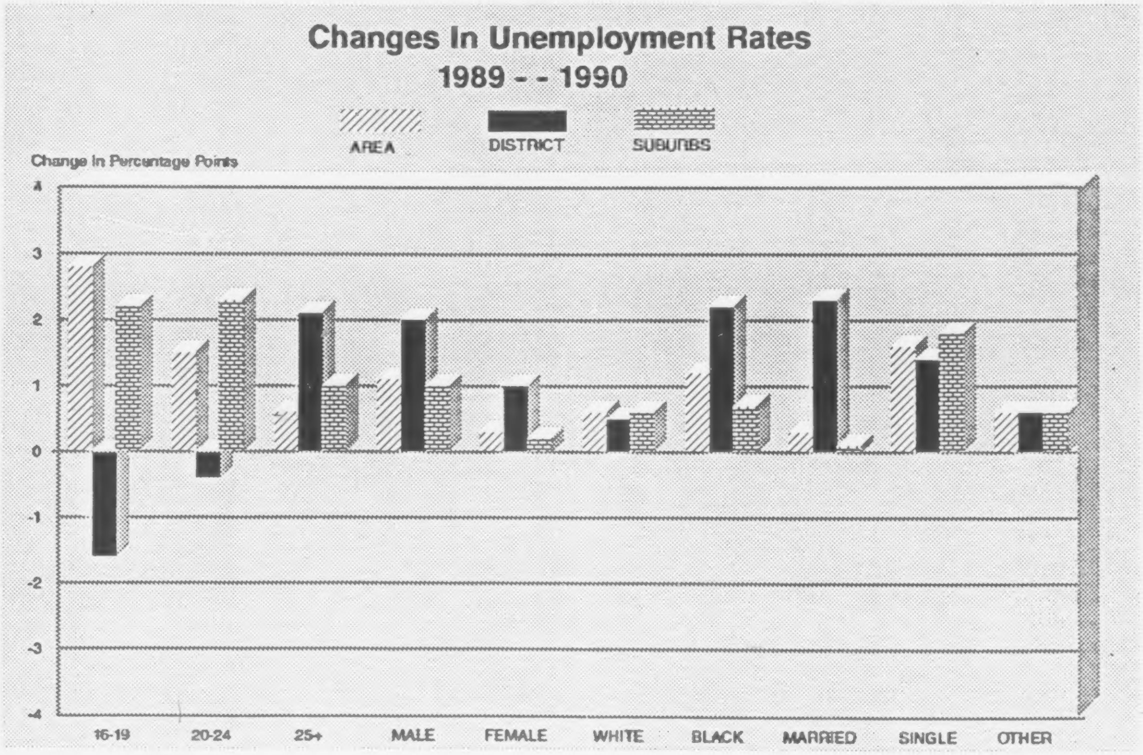
Changes In The Unemployment Rates of Different Worker Groups[1]

In the Washington Area, the early stages of the recession caused the unemployment rates for young workers to increase the most. Among teenagers (16-19), the unemployment rate increased 2.8 percentage points from 1989 to 1990 and measured 12.6 percent for the year. Among young adults (20-24) the over-the-year increase in the rate was 1.5 percentage points with the 1990 average recorded at 4.5 percent. For prime age workers 25 years old and above, the increase in the rate was only a modest six-tenths of a point, with the final unemployment rate for the year measuring a low 2.5 percent.

The statistics for the suburbs were a mirror image of rate changes in the Area. The case in the District was completely different. The onset of the recession in the District impacted prime-age workers (25+), whose rate jumped from 3.8 percent in 1989 to 5.9 percent in 1990, an increase of 2.1 percentage points. In contrast, unemployment rates for both teenagers and young adults in the District actually declined during the year.

Although unemployment rates throughout the Area for both males and females increased over the year, the impact of the recession on the unemployment rates for males was more extensive. Unemployment rates for men increased 1.1 percentage points in the Area, 2.1 points in the District and 1.0 point in the suburbs. Among women the largest increase in the unemployment rate occurred in the District where females saw their rate increase by a full percentage point.

The negative job market impacts from the recession were most noticeable in black unemployment rates. However, the rate for white workers also rose about


Changes In Unemployment Rates
1989 - - 1990

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[1] Data on the characteristics of the unemployed are annual averages from the Current Population Survey (CPS), both published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in *Geographic Profiles of Employment and Unemployment* (BLS Bulletin 2381) and other unpublished CPS data. Suburban data was derived by the LMIR staff from the BLS CPS data.

Continued from page 15

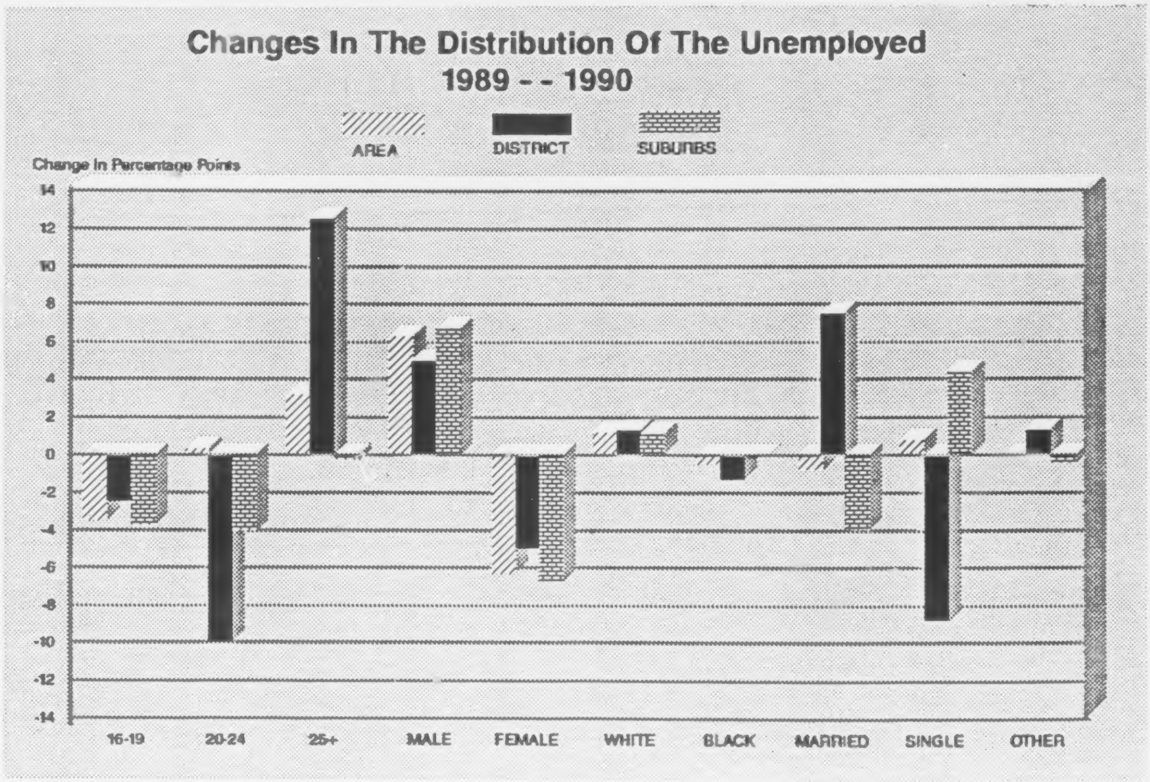
half a point in all local jurisdictions over the year. In the District, the unemployment rate for blacks rose by 2.2 percentage points to average 8.9 percent for the year. In the suburbs, the increase in the black rate was only seven-tenths of a percent, just slightly more than the six-tenths for white suburban workers. The overall 1990 unemployment rate for suburban blacks was 4.7 percent vs. 2.6 for white workers and, in the Area, 6.3 percent for black vs. 2.6 for whites.

As is generally the case, unemployment rates for single workers were high, measuring 6.3 percent for the Area, 8.2 percent in the District and 5.8 percent in the suburbs. In both the Area and the suburbs, the over-the-year change was largest among single workers. In the District, however, the unemployment rate of married workers rose the most—2.3 percentage points vs. 1.4 percent for singles and six-tenths for divorced and separated workers.

Profile of Unemployed Workers

In 1990, adult workers (25+) comprised the largest proportion of all unemployed workers, representing nearly 61 percent of the jobless workers in the Area, 75 percent in the District and nearly 56 percent in the suburbs. This represents a 3.2 percentage point increase from 1989 in the Area and 12.5 points in the District. In the suburbs, however, adult workers as a proportion of all jobless workers actually declined over the year by about three-tenths of a point. The proportion of teenagers among all unemployed workers actually declined in all jurisdictions between 1989 and 1990, by 3.4 percentage points in the Area, 2.5 points in the District and 3.8 points in the suburbs. Only in the suburbs did the proportion of young adults 20-24 years old increase—by 4 percentage points. Thus, the recession increased the proportion of adults on unemployment rolls in the District and young adults in the suburbs.

In 1989, females comprised nearly 51 percent of the unemployed in the Area. In 1990, the male/female relationship reversed and men comprised nearly 55 percent of all jobless workers. The proportion of females among the unemployed dropped over the year by 6.3 percentage points while the proportion of males increased by 6.3 percentage points. In the District during 1989 half the unemployed were men and half were women. In 1990, 55 percent of the jobless were men and 45 percent were women. In the



suburbs, the proportion of males in the unemployment pool increased 6.7 percentage points and the proportion of females declined by a like proportion. Thus, negative changes occurring in the labor market in 1990 tended to increase the representation of males among the jobless.

Similarly, 1990 labor market changes tended to increase the proportion of white workers among people in jobless lines, even in the District. Although black workers comprise about 80 percent of the District's unemployed, the representation of white District workers rose from about 18.8 percent of all the jobless in 1989 to an even 20 percent in 1990. In the suburbs, black workers comprised 27.9 percent of the unemployed in 1989 and 27.8 percent in 1990, a small decrease of a tenth of a point. In the suburbs, the proportion of whites on the unemployment rolls increased 1.1 percentage points to nearly 69 percent of all unemployed suburbanites.

Across the Washington Area, single workers in 1990 tended to be most representative among persons in the unemployment pools, comprising nearly 57 percent of all the unemployed in the Washington Area, 60 percent in the District and nearly 57 percent in the suburbs. Over the year, the proportion of singles in the suburban unemployment pool increased by 4.4 percentage points. In the District, however, the proportion of singles decreased over the year by nearly 9 percentage points. This decline of singles in the District reflects the 7.5 percentage point increase of married workers on the unemployment rolls. Thus in the District, changes in 1990 affected primarily married workers, while in the suburbs the impact was primarily on single workers.

Observations

The onset of the recession in July of 1990 seems to have had a different character in the District and the suburbs. In the District, there were significant employment declines, but the increase in the unemployment rolls was much less than the employment loss. This could simply reflect the relocation of some residents from the City. It also indicates that some job losers probably stopped looking for work and were, thus, not counted among the officially unemployed. In the suburbs, employment grew in 1990, however, it was very small and too insignificant to absorb the new workers who joined the job market. These new workers continued, however, to seek employment. Thus, the pool of unemployed suburbanites grew rapidly last year.

As a result, unemployment rates for teenagers and young adults living in the suburbs increased significantly in 1990. At the same time there was also a smaller increase in the unemployment rate for prime-age workers. In the District, the unemployment rates of teenagers and young adults declined, while a significant increase occurred in the unemployment rate of prime-age workers. In both the District and the suburbs, unemployment among males increased more than among females. Similarly, unemployment rose among black workers more extensively than among white workers. Joblessness among single workers increased in both the District and the suburbs, but the increase among married workers in the District was much more extensive than the small gain that occurred among married suburbanites. Among divorced and separated people, unemployment increased by about the same proportion in both the District and its suburbs.

As a result of the start of the recession, there were also important changes in the make-up of people in the unemployment lines. Proportionately, there were fewer teenagers among the unemployed in both the District and the suburbs in 1990 than in 1989. The picture for young adults, however, was different. In 1990, there were many more people ages 20-24 among the suburban unemployed than in the previous year. In the District the case was just the opposite, there were a lot fewer young adults. On the other hand, the proportion of prime-age workers on the District's unemployment register in 1990 increased significantly. In both the District and the suburbs, the over-the-year change resulted in more males being in the unemployment lines. One of the largest differences between the City and the suburbs was the substantial increase in the proportion of unemployed married workers in the District and a corresponding decrease in unemployed single workers. By contrast, the suburbs added relatively more single workers to the unemployment rolls in 1990.

Thus in the District, unemployment resulting from the early stages of the recession seems to have affected mostly adults, males, blacks and married workers. In the suburbs, the workers affected tended to be young, single, white and male.

NOTICE: Monthly labor force statistics for the District and the Washington Metropolitan Area for the years 1988, 1989 and 1990 have been re-benchmarked. Persons wishing to receive copies of the re-benchmarked series should call (202) 639-1642.

Labor Force Status
Washington Area, The District & The Suburbs
Annual Averages: 1989 & 1990
(in thousands)

The Area:

	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
1989	2212.2	2152.8	59.5	2.7
1990	2209.8	2134.4	75.4	3.4

The District:

	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
1989	315.0	299.0	16.0	5.0
1990	298.0	278.0	20.0	6.6

The Suburbs:

	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
1989	1897.2	1853.8	43.5	2.3
1990	1911.8	1856.4	55.4	2.9

SOURCE: Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program. D.C. Department of Employment Services, The Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development and The Virginia Employment Commission.

Unemployment Rates of Selected Groups
The Washington Area, The District & The Suburbs
1989-1990
(percent of the labor force)

	Area		District		Suburbs	
	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
Age:						
16-19	12.6	15.4	19.3	17.7	12.4	14.6
20-24	4.5	6.0	10.0	9.6	3.4	5.7
25+	1.9	2.5	3.8	5.9	1.6	2.6
Sex:						
Males	2.5	3.6	5.1	7.1	2.1	3.1
Females	3.0	3.3	4.9	5.9	2.6	2.8
Race:						
White	2.0	2.6	2.6	3.1	2.0	2.6
Black	5.1	6.3	6.7	8.9	4.0	4.7
Marital Status:						
Married	1.6	1.9	2.4	4.7	1.6	1.7
Single	4.7	6.3	6.8	8.2	4.0	5.8
Other	2.5	3.1	4.6	5.2	2.1	2.7

SOURCE: Current Population Survey. Published and unpublished data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Suburban estimates derived by LMIR.

The Distribution of Selected Groups Among the Unemployed
The Washington Area, The District & The Suburbs
1989-1990
(percent of the unemployed)

	Area		District		Suburbs	
	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
Age:						
16-19	23.7	20.3	12.5	10.0	27.9	24.1
20-24	18.6	18.9	25.0	15.0	16.3	20.4
25+	57.6	60.8	62.5	75.0	55.8	55.6
Sex:						
Males	49.2	55.4	50.0	55.0	48.8	55.6
Females	50.8	44.6	50.0	45.0	51.2	44.4
Race:						
White	54.2	55.4	18.8	20.0	67.4	68.5
Black	42.4	41.9	81.2	80.0	27.9	27.8
Marital Status:						
Married	30.5	29.7	12.5	20.0	37.2	33.3
Single	55.9	56.8	68.8	60.0	51.2	55.6
Other	13.6	13.5	18.7	20.0	11.6	11.1

SOURCE: Current Population Survey. Published and unpublished data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Suburban estimates derived by LMIR.

Unemployment Insurance Activities—June 1991

Unemployment insurance initial claims for benefits totalled 3,340 in June 1991 compared to 3,790 in May—a 12 percent drop. This represents the second month in succession in the last six months that the number of claims has dropped. The average monthly number of claims in the April-June quarter is 3,710, compared to 4,420 in the January-March quarter of this year. Compared to June of 1990 the current claimsload increased only slightly (3.5 percent).

The number of weeks of unemployment insurance claimed and the number compensated reached 51,520 and 53,085, respectively, this month. As was the case with initial claims, these measures also dropped from last month, although about half the percentage amount. Like initial claims they also dropped two months in succession within the last six months. Compared to June of 1990, both these measures rose more than fifty percent.

The $11.5 million benefit outlay was also down from last month—4 percent. It is the second lowest monthly payout this year, with February being the low point. This new low is still seventy percent higher than June of last year.

This year-to-date and second quarter workload activity indicated the extent to which 1991 has been the watershead year within the last four years. Weeks compensated have risen 58 percent above the highest level (1990) of the last three years in the January-June experience and 66 percent above the 1989 peak for the second quarter. The six-month benefit outlay ($71.1 million) in 1991 represents an over-the-year increase that is nearly as large as the total outlay in the first six months of 1988. A similar picture is painted by the second quarter payout data. These are reflections of the depths of the economic downturn which began in the middle of 1990 and continues until now.

The accompanying tables detail this analysis.

Weeks Compensated, Total, and Average Weekly Unemployment Compensation Outlays
Quarter and Semi-Annual Periods
District of Columbia
1988-1991

	JANUARY-JUNE				CHANGE		
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91
Weeks Compensated	205,752	208,710	209,313	331,069	+2,958	+603	+121,756
Total Outlay	$37,542,182	$40,832,698	$42,383,863	$71,091,171	+$3,290,516	+$1,751,165	+$28,707,308
Avg. Weekly Benefits	$182.46	$195.64	$207.76	$214.73	+$13.18	+12.12	+$6.97

	APRIL-JUNE				CHANGE		
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91
Weeks Compensated	97,375	101,968	100,799	169,365	+4,593	-1,1694	+68,566
Total Outlay	$17,973,153	$20,258,772	$20,756,910	$36,539,956	+$2,285,619	+$498,138	+$15,783,046
Avg. Weekly Benefits	$184.58	$198.68	$205.75	$215.75	+$14.10	+$7.24	+$9.83

Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
June 1991

	June 1991	May 1991	June 1990	% Change From May 1991	% Change From June 1990
State UI Program[a]					
Initial Claims Taken	3,228	3,681	3,113	-12.3	+3.7
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	49,303	51,672	32,024	-4.6	+54.0
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	50,794	52,906	30,806	-4.0	+64.9
Total Benefits Paid	$11,016,259	$11,424,547	$6,362,612	-3.6	+73.1
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$216.88	$215.94	$206.54	+0.4	+5.0
Number of First Payments	2,078	2,458	1,694	-15.5	+22.7
Number of Final Payments	1,347	1,333	806	+1.1	+67.1
Total Beneficiaries	14,425	14,717	8,906	-2.0	+62.0
Federal Program[b]					
Initial Claims Taken	75	77	83	-2.6	-9.6
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	1,970	2,108	1,496	-6.5	+31.7
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,091	2,268	1,512	-7.8	+38.3
Total Benefits Paid	$474,512	$511,101	$350,485	-7.2	+35.4
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$226.93	$225.35	$231.80	+0.7	-2.1
Number of First Payments	98	102	73	-3.9	+34.2
Number of Final Payments	62	75	47	-17.3	+31.9
Total Beneficiaries	577	602	434	-4.2	+32.9
Ex-Servicepersons Program[c]					
Initial Claims Taken	39	30	32	+30.1	+21.9
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	248	271	311	-8.5	-20.3
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	200	227	268	-11.9	-25.4
Total Benefits Paid	$42,200	$47,088	$56,960	-10.4	-25.9
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$211.00	$207.44	$212.54	+1.7	-0.7
Number of First Payments	12	20	26	-40.0	-53.8
Number of Final Payments	13	16	11	-18.8	+18.2
Total Beneficiaries	60	69	82	-13.0	-26.8
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	3,342	3,788	3,228	-11.8	+3.5
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	51,521	54,051	33,831	-4.7	+52.3
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	53,085	55,401	32,586	-4.2	+62.9
Total Benefits Paid	$11,532,971	$11,982,736	$6,770,057	-3.8	+70.4
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$217.25	$216.29	$207.76	+0.4	+4.6
Number of First Payments	2,188	2,580	1,793	-15.2	+22.0
Number of Final Payments	1,422	1,424	864	-0.1	+64.6
Total Beneficiaries	15,062	15,388	9,422	-2.1	+59.9

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a/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

b/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation of Ex-Serviceperson (UCX).

c/ No joint claims.

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for June 1991 increased $18.19. Average Weekly Hours increased 1.1 hours, as Average Hourly Earnings rose 10 cents.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Stone, Clay and Glass Products' weekly earnings increased $53.48, while weekly hours rose by 3 hours and hourly earnings increased 37 cents due to overtime. Other Durable Goods also had overtime which caused weekly earnings, weekly hours and hourly earnings to rise by $12.76, .3 hour and 21 cents, respectively.

In the Non-Durable Goods Sector, overtime was worked throughout the industries. Printing and Publishing had a drop in weekly hours of 19 cents due to an increase in the proportion of lower paid employees. Food and Kindred Products reflects the largest increase in hourly earnings of 35 cents and Other Durable Goods had the largest increase in weekly earnings, $31.54 and weekly hours 2.1 hours.

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
June 1991

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	June 1991	May 1991	June 1990	June 1991	May 1991	June 1990	June 1991	May 1991	June 1990
Total Manufacturing	516.38	498.19	490.46	39.6	38.5	39.3	13.04	12.94	12.48
Durable Goods	542.30	524.59	521.30	42.5	41.8	42.8	12.76	12.55	12.18
Stone Clay & Glass Products	564.77	511.29	554.18	44.4	41.4	48.4	12.72	12.35	11.45
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	497.12	490.59	481.80	41.6	41.4	42.3	11.95	11.85	11.39
Other Durable Goods	553.32	540.56	527.93	42.4	42.1	41.8	13.05	12.84	12.63
Non-Durable Goods	498.38	477.83	464.46	37.5	35.9	36.4	13.29	13.31	12.76
Food & Kindred Products	498.54	483.20	445.00	40.4	40.3	42.1	12.34	11.99	10.57
Printing & Publishing	521.54	504.56	484.04	35.6	34.0	34.5	14.65	14.84	14.03
Other Non-Durable Goods	416.66	385.12	396.74	42.3	40.2	41.5	9.85	9.58	9.56
Total Production Workers		June 1991 38,600			May 1991 38,200			June 1990 41,400	

MAYOR DIXON'S

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DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR JULY 1991

SEPTEMBER 1991

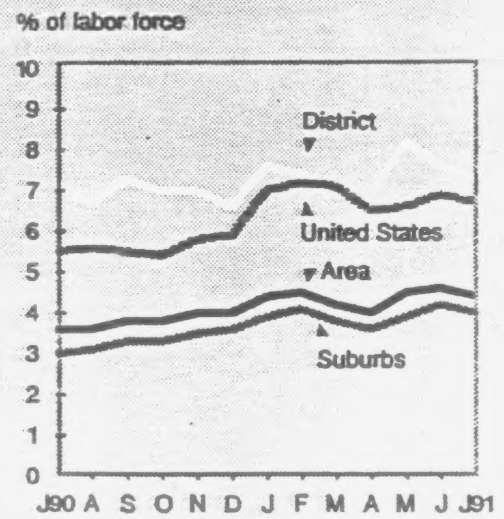
Unemployment Rates Decline Across The Metropolitan Area

Labor Force

During July, unemployment rates across the Metropolitan Area declined. The rate in the District fell from 7.6 percent in June to 7.3 percent and the rate for the suburbs dropped from 4.2 percent to an even 4 percent. These changes in the District and the suburbs caused the areawide rate to fall from 4.6 percent to 4.4 percent. While the decline in the rates are encouraging, they probably are mostly seasonal in nature.

The seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate among civilian workers across the United States in July measured 6.7 percent. This was down from 6.9 percent in June and up from 5.5 percent in July 1990.

Unemployment Rates
July 1990 - July 1991



Continued on page 3

Government of the
District of Columbia
Sharon Pratt Dixon
Mayor

JOB SERVICE

Department of
Employment Services
Maria Borrero
Director

The

Department

of

Employment

Services

Working

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Washington

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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C
AREA LABOR SUMMARY
THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR JULY 1991 SEPTEMBER 1991

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The *Area Labor Summary* is published monthly by the D.C. Department of Employment Services, 500 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The Labor Market Information and Research Staff (Richard Groner, Chief) prepares the *Summary*. The following staff members have contributed to the publication and development of data herein: Charles Roeslin, Rufus Daniels, Eileen Dent, Nance Anderson-Grant, Elsie Taylor, and Gwendolyn Thompson, and administrative support was provided by Robin McDonald.

Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

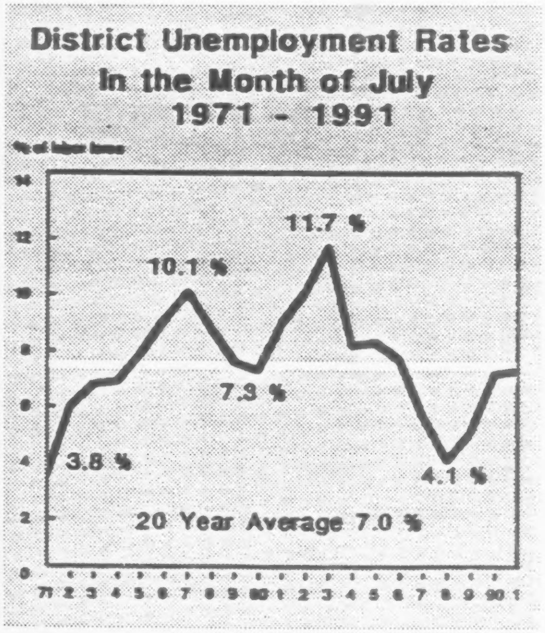
Continued from page 1

The District

During July, 1,100 additional District residents entered the job market. But local employers hired even more—2,100. Thus, July hiring was sufficiently strong to draw an estimated 1,000 residents from the jobless pool and reduce the unemployment rate by three-tenths of a percent.

A decline in the District's unemployment rate in July is tradition. In fact, over the past 21 years the District's rate's has fallen between June and July each and every year without exception. The drop this year, however, was smaller than anticipated. For the past 21 years the average change has been a large eight-tenths of a percentage point compared to just three-tenths this year.

When compared to July of last year, this past July found 7,200 fewer residents with jobs. The City's labor force also shrunk by a similar 7,500 workers. As a result, there was virtually no change in the number of unemployed and the unemployment rate over the year.


District Unemployment Rates In the Month of July 1971 - 1991

The Suburbs and Area

In contrast to the District, the June-to-July changes in the suburbs were larger. During July, the suburban labor force grew by 36,000 additional workers. Area employers were able to hire a larger number of workers—38,300. As a consequence, some 2,400 suburbanites were drawn from the jobless rolls. Compared to July of 1990, the suburban labor pool has added about 21,000 additional workers over the past year. However, local employers only hired 1,200 additional suburbanites during the past twelve months. Since new hiring did not absorb the expanded supply of labor, the suburban registry of unemployed grew by 19,700—a significant jump of nearly 34 percent. These changes pushed the suburban unemployment rate up one full percentage point over the year.

During July, activity in the District and the suburbs produced a 37,100-person increase in the Area's

Continued on page 4

Employment Rates in the Washington, D.C., MSA by City and County

	July a/ 1991	June b/ 1991	July b/ 1990
1. **District of Columbia**	**7.3**	**7.6**	**7.2**
2. Calvert County	7.2	7.3	5.2
3. Manassas Park City	5.2	5.5	1.7
4. Frederick County	5.1	5.5	4.2
5. Alexandria City	4.9	4.9	2.8
6. Prince Georges Cty.	4.8	5.2	4.4
7. Charles County	4.7	4.9	3.6
8. Manassas City	4.6	5.4	2.4
9. Stafford County	4.6	4.7	2.8
10. Prince William Cty.	4.1	4.3	2.2
11. Arlington County	4.0	3.9	2.3
12. Loudoun County	3.8	3.9	1.7
13. Falls Church City	3.7	4.6	1.7
14. Fairfax County	3.3	3.4	2.0
15. Montgomery County	3.1	3.4	3.0
16. Fairfax City	2.3	2.4	1.8

a/ Preliminary b/ Revised.

SOURCE. The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development and the Virginia Employment Commission

Continued from page 3

labor force. Employers were, however, able to absorb in jobs the increase and drew 3,400 additional people from the unemployment lines. This reduced the total unemployment pool in the Area below the record setting number of 103,300 in June.

The over-the-year comparison (July 1990 to July 1991), however, still displays the impacts of the recession. There were 6,000 fewer area residents working this July when compared to last July. In addition, the area labor supply added 13,500 potential workers. When the laid-off workers combined with the increase in labor supply, this pushed the pool of unemployed in the area up by an additional 19,500 workers, or by about 25 percent. Compared to July of 1990, the area unemployment rate now stands eight-tenths of a percent higher at 4.4 percent of the labor force. Still this rate is 2.3 percentage points below the rate for the United States and one of the lowest metropolitan rates in the nation.

Labor Force Distribution
Washington Metropolitan Area
July 1991 & July 1990
(percent)

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
		JULY 1991	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.0	12.6	21.5
Suburbs	87.0	87.4	78.5
		JULY 1990	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.4	12.9	27.0
Suburbs	86.6	87.1	73.0

Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA
July 1991[a]

					Net Change from	
	JULY[b] 1991	JUNE[c] 1991	JULY[d] 1990	JUNE[d] 1990	JUNE 1991	JULY 1990
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	295,300	294,200	302,800	300,100	1,100	-7,500
Total Employed	273,800	271,700	281,000	276,800	2,100	-7,200
Total Unemployed	21,500	22,500	21,700	23,400	-1,000	-200
Unemployment Rate[e]	7.3	7.6	7.2	7.8	-0.3	0.1
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,975,500	1,939,500	1,954,500	1,926,300	36,000	21,000
Total Employed	1,897,100	1,858,800	1,895,900	1,869,800	38,300	1,200
Total Unemployed	78,400	80,800	58,700	56,400	-2,400	19,700
Unemployment Rate[e]	4.0	4.2	3.0	2.9	-0.2	1.0
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,270,800	2,233,700	2,257,300	2,226,400	37,100	13,500
Total Employed	2,170,900	2,130,500	2,176,900	2,146,600	40,400	-6,000
Total Unemployed	99,900	103,300	80,400	79,800	-3,400	19,500
Unemployment Rate[e]	4.4	4.6	3.6	3.6	-0.2	0.8

a/ Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding. b/ Preliminary. c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions. e/ Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia, the Virginia Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun and Stafford; and the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick and Calvert.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

In July 1991, 55 percent of all UI claimants were males. Occupationally, professional, technical and managerial workers accounted for 26 percent of the total workers. This was followed by 25 percent in clerical and sales, 21 percent in service workers and 17 percent in structural workers. The remaining 11 percent was distributed between machine trades, bench work, processing and miscellaneous workers.

The median duration of the current cycle of insured unemployment was 10.8 weeks for all claimants in July. Over the month, the duration for males fell from 11.3 weeks to 11.0 weeks, while for females the duration also fell from 10.8 weeks to 10.5 weeks. A year ago, the duration was 9.3 weeks for males and 8.6 weeks for females.

Putting People to Work is a Smart Business Investment

Job Growth

The District

The number of jobs in the District decreased by 900 for a loss of 0.1 percent between June and July. The private sector was responsible for the decrease with seasonal declines in Services (2,300 jobs) and Trade (700 jobs).

The public sector increased by 2,600 with a seasonal gain in State and Local Government (2,900 jobs). State and Local Government growth reflects the hiring of 5,800 youth under the annual Summer Youth Employment Program operated by the District Government.

Over the year (July 1990 to July 1991), the number of District jobs declined 1.8 percent for a loss of 12,800 jobs. **The public sector lost 7,200 jobs with declines in both Federal Government (700 jobs) and State and Local Government (6,500 jobs).** The Federal job loss continues to reflect lower Census employment levels this year while the State and Local Government decline is primarily a result of a decrease in the number of youth employed under the District's Summer Youth Employment Program.

The private sector decreased at a rate of 1.4 percent for a loss of 5,600 jobs. Losses were primarily concentrated in Construction (1,800 jobs), Trade (1,600 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,400 jobs).

The Suburbs

The number of suburban jobs decreased by 0.9 percent for a loss of 14,300 jobs between June and July. The public sector was responsible for the decline with seasonal losses in State and Local Government (14,000 jobs) partially offset by a gain in Federal Government (700 jobs). The Maryland suburbs accounted for two-thirds of the loss in State and Local Government while the Virginia suburbs were responsible for 86 percent of the gain in Federal Government.

The private sector declined 0.1 percent with a loss in Trade (1,100 jobs). The Virginia suburbs were responsible for 55 percent of the loss in Trade.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Over the year (July 1990 to July 1991), suburban jobs declined at a rate of 1.7 percent for a loss of 26,000 jobs. **The Maryland suburbs declined at a rate of 0.6 percent while the Virginia suburbs decreased at a rate of 2.6 percent.**

The private sector, declining at a rate of 2.2 percent, accounted for the loss in suburban jobs with 77 percent of the decline in the goods-producing sector (21,200 jobs). Job losses were concentrated in Construction (17,300 jobs), Trade (5,500 jobs), Manufacturing (3,700 jobs), and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (3,000 jobs) while the only job gains occurred in Services (1,600 jobs) and Transportation and Public Utilities (400 jobs). Three-fourths of the Construction loss and 82 percent of the decline in Trade occurred in the Virginia suburbs. The Virginia suburbs were also responsible for 63 percent of the loss in Manufacturing and 50 percent of the decline in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate as well as all of the Services growth. The Maryland suburbs accounted for the growth in Transportation and Public Utilities.

The public sector grew at a rate of 0.6 percent with growth in State and Local Government (3,900 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (2,200 jobs). Ninety percent of the State and Local Government growth was concentrated in the Maryland suburbs while 59 percent of the decline in Federal Government occurred in the Virginia suburbs.

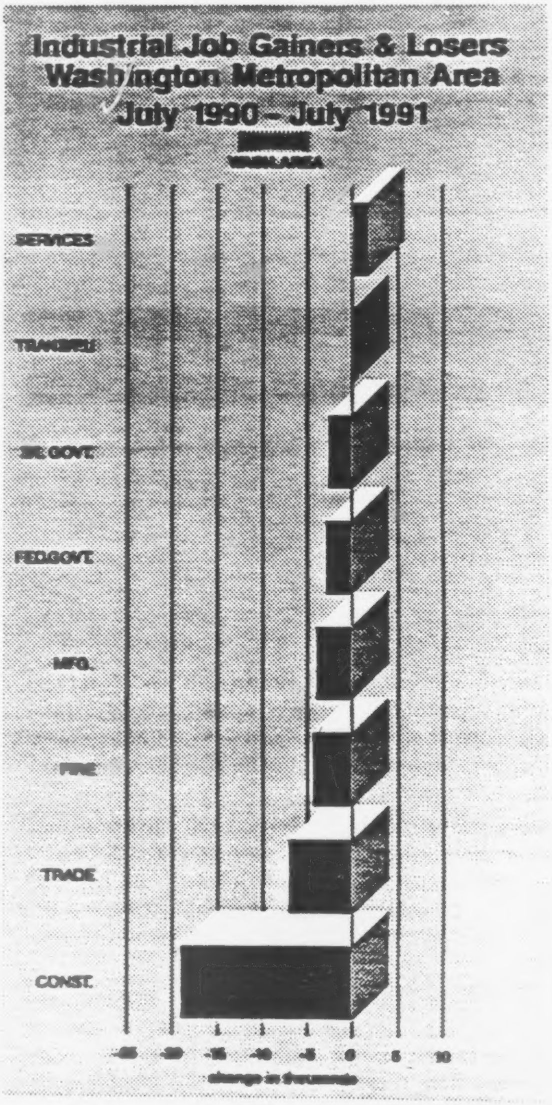
The Area

The Washington Metropolitan Area lost 15,200 jobs between June and July for a loss of 0.7 percent. The public sector accounted for 70 percent of the job loss with declines in State and Local Government (11,100 jobs) partially offset by a gain in Federal Government (400 jobs).

The private sector declined by 4,500 jobs with losses primarily in Services (2,400 jobs) and Trade (1,800 jobs).

Over the year (July 1990 to July 1991), the Area declined at a rate of 1.7 percent for a loss of 38,800 jobs. The private sector, declining at a rate of 2.0 percent for a loss of 33,300 jobs, was responsible for the Area jobs loss. Job losses, occurring throughout the private sector, were primarily concentrated in Construction (19,100 jobs), Trade (7,100 jobs), Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (4,400 jobs) and Manufacturing (4,000 jobs).

The public sector declined at a rate of 0.9 percent with losses in both State and Local Government (2,600 jobs) and Federal Government (2,900 jobs).



Continued on page 7

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a]
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	July[b] 1991	June[c] 1991	July[d] 1990	July[b] 1991	June[c] 1991	July[d] 1990
TOTAL	**687.1**	**688.0**	**699.9**	**2,221.2**	**2,236.4**	**2,260.0**
Total Private Sector	**404.2**	**407.7**	**409.8**	**1,637.8**	**1,642.3**	**1,671.1**
Total Government	**282.9**	**280.3**	**290.1**	**583.4**	**594.1**	**588.9**
Total Goods Producing	**28.1**	**28.5**	**30.2**	**205.7**	**205.7**	**229.0**
Manufacturing	**15.3**	**15.3**	**15.6**	**84.3**	**84.4**	**88.3**
Total Durable	2.2	2.2	2.2	40.7	40.8	42.9
Stone, Clay, Glass Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.8	2.8	3.3
Electronic & Electric Equip.	N/A	N/A	N/A	18.1	18.1	17.9
All Other Durable	N/A	N/A	N/A	19.8	19.9	21.7
Total Non-Durable	13.1	13.1	13.4	43.6	43.6	45.4
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	4.6	4.8	4.6
Printing & Publishing	12.4	12.4	12.7	33.2	33.0	34.8
All Other Non-Durable	0.4	0.4	0.4	5.8	5.8	6.0
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**1.1**	**1.1**	**1.3**
Construction	**12.7**	**13.1**	**14.5**	**120.3**	**120.2**	**139.4**
Total Service Producing	**659.0**	**659.5**	**669.7**	**2015.5**	**2030.7**	**2031.0**
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	**23.6**	**23.8**	**24.2**	**108.1**	**108.3**	**108.3**
All Transportation	9.0	9.2	9.4	52.0	52.1	51.6
Railroads	4.1	4.1	4.2	5.2	5.2	5.3
Transportation ex. Railroad	4.9	5.1	5.2	46.8	46.9	46.3
Communications & Public Utilities	14.6	14.6	14.8	56.1	56.2	56.7
Trade	**60.2**	**60.9**	**61.8**	**430.1**	**431.9**	**437.2**
Wholesale	8.2	8.2	8.4	78.4	78.6	79.4
Retail	52.0	52.7	53.4	351.7	353.3	357.8
General Merchandise	N/A	N/A	N/A	36.9	37.1	38.8
Food Stores	N/A	N/A	N/A	49.8	50.1	50.5
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	36.6	36.3	37.9
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	28.1	28.8	28.2
Eating & Drinking Places	28.5	28.7	28.5	119.9	120.3	120.0
All Other Retail	23.5	24.0	24.9	80.4	80.7	82.4
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**32.6**	**32.5**	**34.0**	**128.5**	**128.6**	**132.9**
Finance	15.1	15.1	16.3	58.8	58.9	61.2
Depository Institutions	8.2	8.1	9.2	38.9	39.0	41.1
Other Finance	6.9	7.0	7.1	19.9	19.9	20.1
Insurance	8.0	8.0	7.9	28.5	28.5	28.2
Real Estate	9.5	9.4	9.8	41.2	41.2	43.5

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

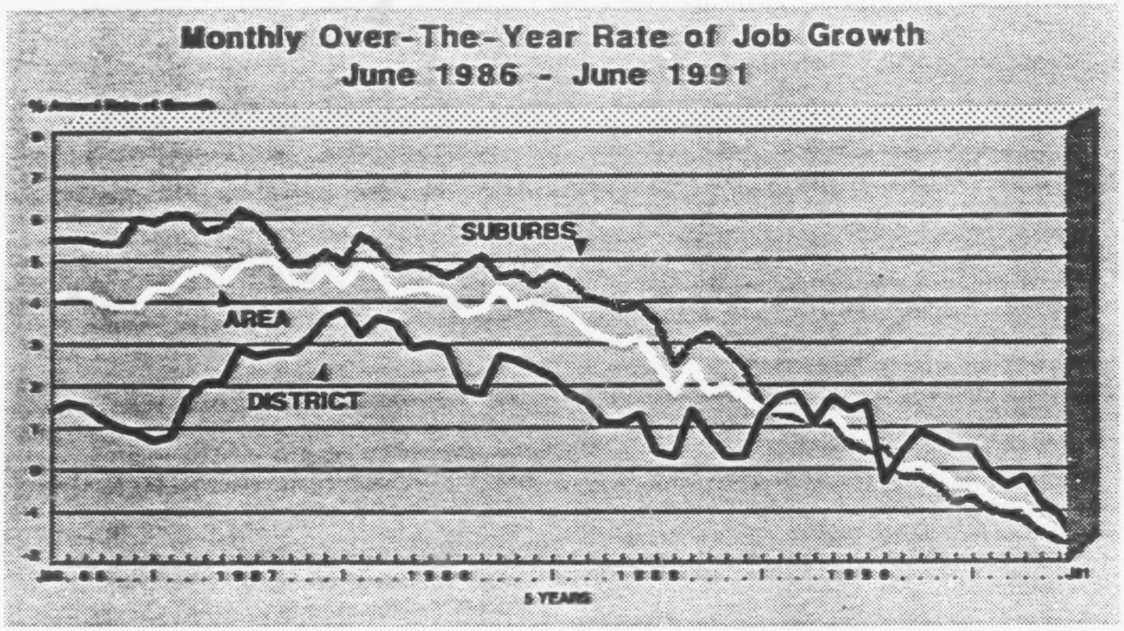
Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a]
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	July[b] 1991	June[c] 1991	July[d] 1990	July[b] 1991	June[c] 1991	July[d] 1990
Services	**259.7**	**262.0**	**259.6**	**765.4**	**767.8**	**763.7**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	17.3	18.0	17.3	39.9	41.1	38.7
Personal Services	3.2	3.2	3.4	22.5	22.5	22.3
Business Services	37.6	38.6	39.8	181.2	182.4	183.7
Service to Buildings	12.9	13.2	14.2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Personnel Supply	6.9	7.5	8.6	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	5.9	6.0	5.8	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Business Services	11.9	11.9	11.2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	38.3	38.1	37.7	120.8	120.2	117.8
Legal Services	31.2	31.2	30.8	42.1	42.2	41.5
Educational Services	29.6	30.0	28.3	41.6	43.1	[illegible].9
Social Services	13.3	13.2	12.9	37.6	37.6	35.5
Membership Organizations	34.8	34.9	34.4	64.3	63.6	63.5
Engineering/Management Ser.	44.4	44.5	44.9	146.2	146.1	150.2
All Other Services	10.0	10.3	10.1	69.2	69.0	70.6
Government	**282.9**	**280.3**	**290.1**	**583.4**	**594.1**	**588.9**
Federal Government	223.2	223.5	223.9	367.4	367.0	370.3
State & Local Government	59.7	56.8	66.2	216.0	227.1	218.6
State Government	54.8	51.9	61.4	78.8	78.9	86.4
Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	137.2	148.2	132.2
Public Transportation	4.9	4.9	4.8	N/A	N/A	N/A

a/ Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. b/ Preliminary c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions.

Data includes all full-and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

SOURCE. Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics


Monthly Over-The-Year Rate of Job Growth
June 1986 - June 1991

Area Job Growth Rates

Over the past five years (July 1986 to July 1991), the Washington Area created new jobs at a rate of 2.7 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has declined from a peak of 5.0 percent in August 1987 to a net loss of 1.7 percent in July 1991. **This marked the ninth consecutive month that the Washington Area recorded an over-the-year job loss.** This July's measurement was down from a 0.8 percent increase reported in July 1990.

For the eleventh consecutive month, the suburban economy recorded an over-the-year job loss. The July loss represented a job decline of 1.7 percent from a year earlier. This suburban loss was down from the yearly growth of 0.4 percent reported in July 1990. In the District, the number of jobs decreased over the year by 1.8 percent and represents the sixth consecutive over-the-year drop. The loss of District jobs this year compares to a growth of 1.6 percent reported in the same month a year ago.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from a peak gain during the past five years of 101,300 new jobs created between July 1986 and July 1987, to a loss of 38,800 jobs between July 1990 and this past July. Over the past year, 26,000 jobs were lost by the suburban economy, while the District lost 12,800 jobs.

The U.S. economy for the seventh month lost jobs over the year. The U.S. loss was at the same rate as the local loss (a 1.7 percent decline for the U.S. economy and a 1.7 percent decline for the Washington Area).

Viewed from a slightly different perspective, job growth in the Washington Area peaked in June of 1990 at a record high 2,271,600 jobs. Measured from that peak, the local economy has lost 50,400 jobs to the current recession. This is a loss of 2.2 percent from the area's record June 1990 job base.

Pay Profile:

Annual Average Pay in the District of Columbia: 1990

For the third consecutive year, average annual pay in the District was the highest in the nation when ranked by states. In 1990, people working in the District earned an average of $33,717. This was $10,115 or 30.0 percent more than the average worker in the United States. The District was the only "state" where the annual pay exceeded $30,000.[1]

The District was followed in the state ranking by Alaska ($29,946), Connecticut ($28,995), New York ($28,873) and New Jersey ($28,449), which rounded out the top five states. The lowest average pay of $16,430 occurred in South Dakota.

During 1990, pay in the neighboring states of Virginia and Maryland averaged $22,750 and $24,730, respectively. Thus, workers in the District earned $10,967, or 33 percent, more than the average Virginia worker and $8,987, or 27 percent, more than those in Maryland.

Between 1989 and 1990, average pay in the District increased by 5.0 percent. This was four-tenths of a percent larger than the 4.6 percent increase for all American workers. The largest average pay hike, however, occurred in Hawaii where pay jumped 7.1 percent, from $21,624 in 1989 to $23,167 in 1990. Ten other states also had larger relative increases than in the District. The smallest increase was in Alaska where pay rose only eight-tenths of a percent last year. Pay in Virginia increased by 4.0 percent over the year and in Maryland 5.4 percent.

1990 Industrial Pay Gains in the District

In the District, average pay in the eight major industry divisions ranged from a high of $43,859 in Transportation and Public Utilities to a low of $14,617 in Retail Trade. Over the year average increases ranged from a high of 7.3 percent in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate to a low of 2.6 percent in Retail. Of the eight major industries, five (Construction, Transportation/Public Utilities, Wholesale Trade, Finance/Insurance and Real Estate and Services) had increases above the overall industry average of 5.0 percent. Government was at the five percent mark and Manufacturing and Retail fell below the average.

Pay in District and U.S. Industries

As noted, the average worker in the District made 30 percent more than the average American worker in 1990. Among the major industries, the pay advantage for District workers ranged from a high of 32.0 percent for government workers to a low of 13.1 percent for employees in Retail. In terms of absolute dollars, pay in the District's Transportation and Public Utilities Industry was $13,825 more than in its U.S. counterpart. The smallest pay differentials were found in Construction ($4,159) and Retail ($1,908).

In 1990, the Washington Area Consumer Price Index increased by 5.4 percent. Thus, when compared to the 5.0 percent District pay increase, it means that the average District worker probably lost real purchasing power during the year.

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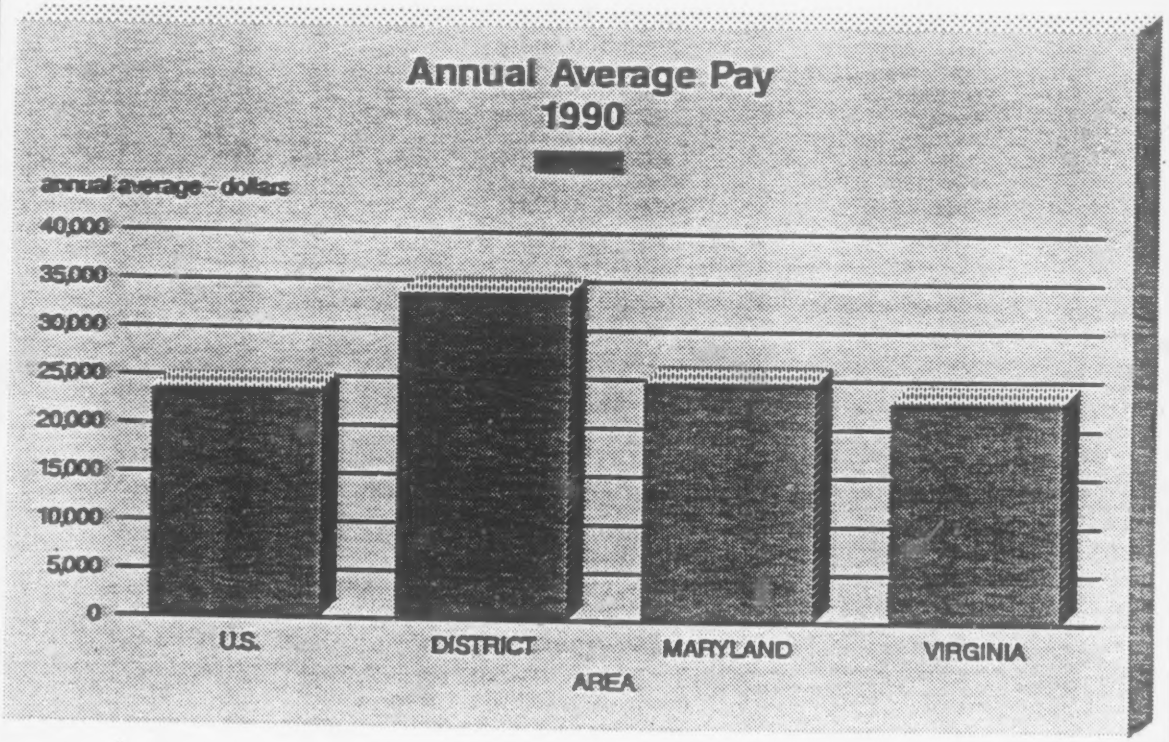
[1] See: Bureau of Labor Statistics, News Release, Thursday, August 8, 1991


Annual Average Pay
1990
annual average -- dollars
40,000
35,000
30,000
25,000
20,000
15,000
10,000
5,000
0
U.S.
DISTRICT
MARYLAND
VIRGINIA
AREA

Annual Average Pay By Industry
The District of Columbia
1989-1990
(annual average-dollars)

	1989	1990*	Change	%
TOTAL	32,106	33,717	1,611	5.0
PRIVATE	29,719	31,195	1,476	5.0
CONSTRUCTION	28,617	30,309	1,692	5.9
MANUFACTURING	38,778	40,686	1,908	4.9
TRANSP/PUBLIC UTILITIES	41,419	43,859	2,440	5.9
WHOLESALE	37,713	39,963	2,250	6.0
RETAIL	14,251	14,617	366	2.6
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	35,142	37,692	2,550	7.3
SERVICES	30,198	32,114	1,916	6.3
GOVERNMENT	35,529	37,319	1,790	5.0

*Preliminary

SOURCE. Department of Employment Services and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Covered employment under the District and Federal Unemployment Compensation Programs.

Annual Average Pay By Industry
The United States & The District of Columbia
1990*
(annual averages-dollars)

	District	United States	Difference	%
TOTAL	33,717	23,602	10,115	30.0
PRIVATE	31,195	23,258	7,937	25.4
CONSTRUCTION	30,309	26,150	4,159	13.7
MANUFACTURING	40,686	28,881	11,805	29.0
TRANSP/PUBLIC UTILITIES	43,859	30,034	13,825	31.5
WHOLESALE	39,963	30,034	9,929	24.8
RETAIL	14,617	12,709	1,908	13.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	37,692	29,683	8,009	21.2
SERVICES	32,114	22,006	10,108	31.5
GOVERNMENT	37,319	25,361	11,958	32.0

*Preliminary

SOURCE. Department of Employment Services and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Covered employment under the District and Federal Unemployment Compensation Programs

Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Areas

In June 1991, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 271 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The Washington Area's June jobless rate was up 0.1 percentage point to 4.6 percent. This was the thirty-eighth lowest jobless rate of the 271 areas reporting. In June 1990, the Washington Area's rate was 3.6 percent.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 4.6 percent was the fifth lowest of all the major metropolitan areas.

In June, the Baltimore Area's rate remained unchanged at 6.6 percent. The Baltimore rate was up 1.7 percentage points over the year. The Baltimore area had the twenty-ninth highest rate among the 40 selected areas tracked in the *Area Labor Summary*.

The Richmond-Petersburg area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, reported that their June jobless rate rose a half of a percentage point to 5.6 percent. Last June, the area's rate was 4.2 percent, a 1.4 percent over-the-year increase.

Their neighbor, Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport, June's jobless rate also rose a half of a percentage point from 5.6 percent to 6.1 percent. A year ago, the rate was 5.2 percent.

Tucson continues to have the lowest rate of the 40 cities tracked in the *Area Labor Summary*. However, Tucson's June jobless rate was up 0.7 percentage point to 3.5 percent. This was followed by Denver reporting its June rate falling from 5.0 percent to 4.3 percent. Minneapolis-St. Paul recorded a 0.6 percent drop in their rate falling from 5.1 percent to 4.5 percent. The Washington Area, Phoenix, Indianapolis and Seattle each reported jobless rates of 4.6 percent.

There were 12 large metropolitan areas with rates between 5.0 and 5.9 percent. There were 10 large metropolitan areas with rates between 6.0 and 6.9 percent, 4 large metropolitan areas with a rate between 7.0 and 7.9 percent and 3 large metropolitan areas with rates between 8.0 and 8.9 percent. Only two areas, Miami and Detroit, posted jobless rates above 9.0 percent—those being 9.2 percent and 9.3 percent, respectively.

Of the 271 metropolitan areas for which June data are available, 153 had over-the-year increases of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rates, while seven areas had decreases of 1 percentage point or more. A total of 54 areas had June jobless rates of 8 percent or higher, while 56 had rates of 5 percent or below.

Unemployment Rates in Selected Statistical Areas

	June	
MSA	1991	1990
1. Tucson, AR	3.5	4.7
2. Denver, CO	4.3	5.3
3. Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	4.5	4.3
4. Seattle, WA	4.6	3.1
5. Washington, D.C.	**4.6**	**3.6**
6. Indianapolis, IN	4.6	3.6
7. Phoenix, AR	4.6	4.8
8. Columbus, OH	4.8	4.3
9. Portland, OR	4.9	4.2
10. San Francisco, CA	5.1	3.4
11. Milwaukee, WI	5.2	4.5
12. Nashville, TN	5.3	4.5
13. Houston, TX	5.3	5.4
14. Cleveland, OH	5.4	4.7
15. Dallas, TX	5.5	5.4
16. Louisville, KY	5.5	5.6
17. Richmond-Petersburg, VA	5.6	4.2
18. Hartford, CT	5.8	4.7
19. Dayton, OH	5.8	5.2
20. Pittsburgh, PA	5.8	4.4
21. Oklahoma City, OK	5.9	4.5
22. Kansas City, MO	6.0	4.8
23. Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport, VA	6.1	5.2
24. Oakland, CA	6.2	4.2
25. Memphis, TN	6.2	5.0
26. Atlanta, GA	6.2	5.4
27. New Orleans, LA	6.5	6.5
28. Philadelphia, PA	6.5	4.5
29. Baltimore, MD	6.6	4.9
30. Buffalo, NY	6.6	4.4
31. Newark, NJ	6.8	5.2
32. Montgomery, AL	7.0	6.7
33. Chicago, IL	7.1	6.0
34. San Diego, CA	7.1	4.4
35. St. Louis, MO	7.4	5.8
36. New York, NY	8.1	5.5
37. Boston, MA	8.4	5.1
38. Los Angeles, CA	8.5	4.6
39. Miami, FL	9.2	7.5
40. Detroit, MI	9.3	7.5

*Preliminary unemployment rates

States

When the District of Columbia (with a June unemployment rate of 7.6 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the twelfth highest jobless rate in the Country. This was six notches below the position held in May.

Maryland's rate rose 0.2 percentage point, rising from 5.8 percent to 6.0 percent. Maryland's rate is still 1.6 percentage points higher than June a year ago. Among the 51 jurisdictions, from highest to the lowest, Maryland ranked thirty-third in June compared to thirty-fourth in May.

Virginia's rate rose 0.5 percentage point, rising from 5.5 percent to 6.0 percent. Both Virginia and Maryland have a 6.0 percent unemployment rate. A year ago, Virginia's rate was 4.4 percent. Virginia ranked thirty-sixth among the 51 jurisdictions.

Thirty-three states reported over-the-year unemployment rate increases of 1 percentage point or more. The largest increase took place in Massachusetts (3.7 percentage points), followed by Maine (3.2 points), California (3.0 points) and West Virginia (2.9 points). No state reported an unemployment rate decrease of as much as 1 percentage point.

Six states had June 1991 unemployment rates of 8 percent or above, compared with only one state a year earlier. Mississippi (10.5 percent) and West Virginia (9.7 percent) experienced the highest unemployment rates. Nine states had jobless rates of 5 percent or below, compared with 25 a year earlier. Nebraska (2.3 percent) and Hawaii and South Dakota (both at 3.1 percent) reported the lowest rates. Nebraska and Hawaii have had the lowest rates in the nation since July 1989.

Cities

In comparison with the 26 selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with a June preliminary rate of 7.6 percent) held the fourteenth position. This was four notches below the May position when it was eighteenth. In June, the average unemployment rate for the 27 cities was 7.8 percent, compared to 6.4 percent last June.

Only eight cities reported jobless rates at or below 6 percent, with the lowest posted in Phoenix at 4.7 percent, followed by Seattle—5.0 percent, Denver—5.1 percent and Columbus and Pittsburgh each 5.2 percent. Houston reported a jobless rate of 5.7 percent. San Francisco's rate at 5.8 percent was above 5.0 percent for the second consecutive month.

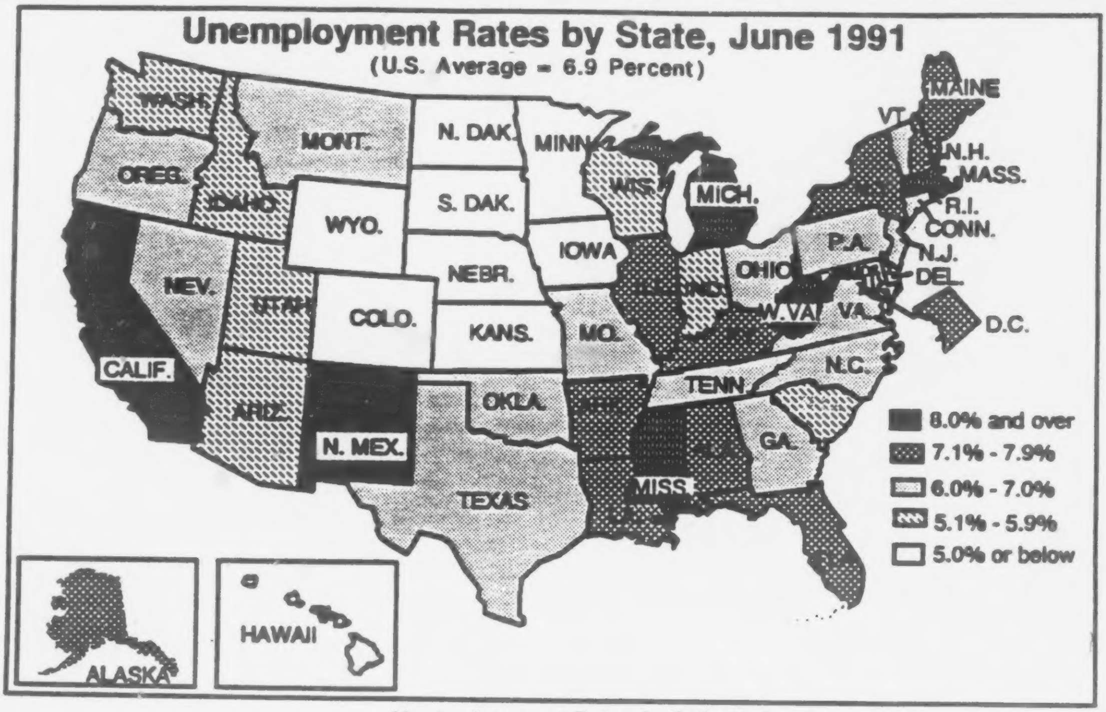
Baltimore's rate rose 0.1 percent to 9.6 percent. The 9.6 percent is 2.1 percentage points higher than the 7.5 percent recorded a year ago. In June, Baltimore had the twenty-second highest rate of the 27 selected cities.

For many months, Newark and Detroit were the double-digiters among the 27 selected cities. In May, Miami joined the group. The Miami rate rose from 10.8 percent in May to 11.3 percent in June. This month, another central city—St. Louis—joined the group. The St. Louis rate rose from 9.5 percent in May to 10.0 percent in June.

For ten consecutive months, Newark has been a double-digit unemployment rate city. Newark's rate at 12.7 percent was up 0.1 percentage point over the month and up 2.7 percentage points over the year. Newark held the twenty-sixth position in June.

Detroit's jobless rate rose from 12.5 percent in May to 13.0 percent in June. Detroit's June rate is 2.2 percentage points higher than June a year ago. Detroit was back in the twenty-seventh position last month.

Of the 27 selected central cities, only five reported decreases in joblessness and twenty two reported increases in joblessness over the year. The largest decrease 1.1 percent was recorded in Denver. Of the twenty-two cities recording increases, the largest were posted in Los Angeles 4.3 percent and Boston—3.8 percent. This was followed by a 2.8 percent rise in joblessness in San Diego, New York and Newark—2.7 percent each and 2.2 percent each in Indianapolis and Detroit.



Unemployment Rates by State, June 1991

(U.S. Average = 6.9 Percent)

WASH.
OREG.
IDAHO
MONT.
N. DAK.
MINN.
S. DAK.
WYO.
WIS.
MICH.
IOWA
NEBR.
NEV.
UTAH
COLO.
KANS.
MO.
ILL.
IND.
OHIO
P.A.
W.VA.
VA.
CALIF.
ARIZ.
N. MEX.
OKLA.
TEXAS
TENN
N.C.
GA.
MISS.
MAINE
VT.
N.H.
MASS.
R.I.
CONN.
N.J.
DEL.
D.C.
ALASKA
HAWAII
8.0% and over
7.1% - 7.9%
6.0% - 7.0%
5.1% - 5.9%
5.0% or below

Unemployment Rates in Selected Statistical Areas

MSA	June 1991*	June 1990
1. Phoenix, AR	4.7	5.0
2. Seattle, WA	5.0	3.4
3. Denver, CO	5.1	6.2
4. Columbus, OH	5.2	4.6
5. Pittsburgh, PA.	5.2	4.2
6. Houston, TX	5.7	5.8
7. San Francisco, CA	5.8	4.0
8. Indianapolis, IN	6.0	3.8
9. Milwaukee, WI	6.3	5.8
10. Memphis, TN	6.4	5.2
11. Dallas, TX	6.4	6.3
12. New Orleans, LA	6.6	6.7
13. San Diego, CA	7.2	4.4
14. District of Columbia	**7.6**	**7.8**
15. Philadelphia, PA	8.1	5.8
16. Cleveland, OH	8.6	7.5
17. Chicago, IL	8.7	7.7
18. New York, NY	8.7	6.0
19. Atlanta GA	8.8	7.8
20. Boston, MA	9.3	5.5
21. Los Angeles, CA	9.5	5.2
22. Baltimore, MD	9.6	7.5
23. Hartford, CT	9.7	9.0
24. St. Louis, MO	10.0	8.2
25. Miami, FL	11.3	9.2
26. Newark, NJ	12.7	10.0
27. Detroit, NJ	13.0	10.8

*Preliminary unemployment rates

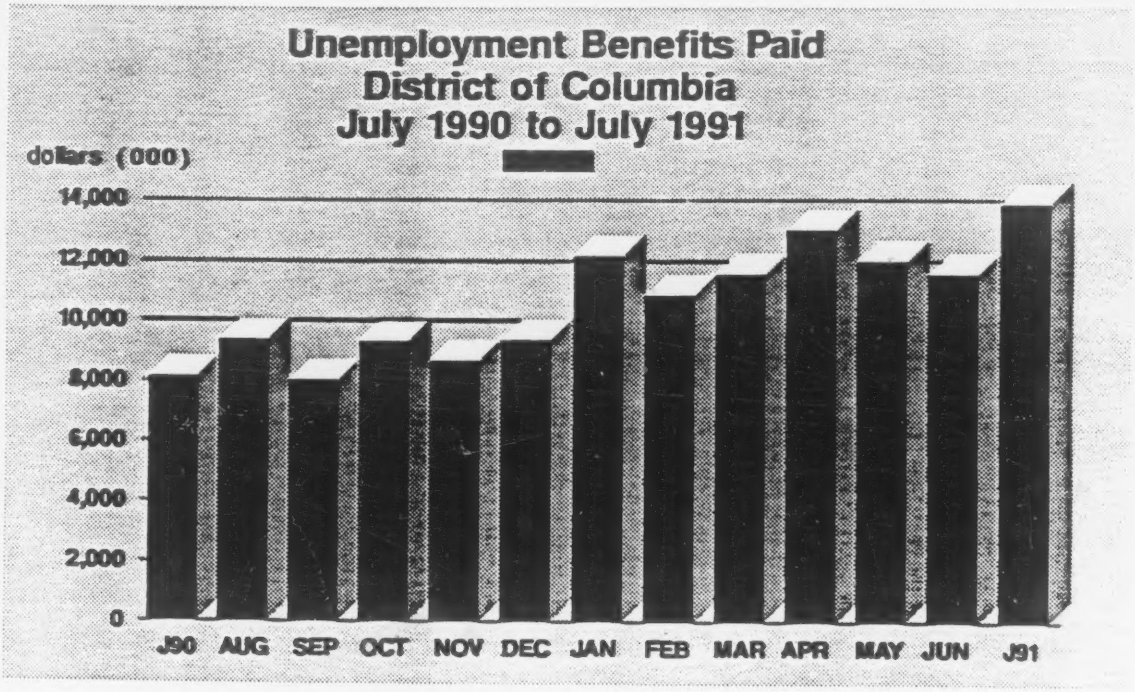
Unemployment Insurance Activities—July 1991

The District of Columbia processed 4,700 claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits in July 1991, which was 40 percent above June. The rise in claims activity is due to a combination of seasonal and economic factors: (1) July is the beginning of a calendar quarter and of a new base period for monetary determination of benefits allowable for claims. The past practice has been that a significant number of persons who were actually eligible in June or earlier months opted to wait until July because their base period as of July will yield a higher benefit amount than if they had filed earlier using the prior base period. The July rise in claims for the last two years was 21 percent. (2) Claimants from firms that have laid off workers because of the economic slump have also swelled the total number of claims in the current month.

The weeks claimed, weeks compensated and total benefit payout rose 19, 21, and 20 percent, respectively, over last month. The $13.9 million outlay in July is a monthly record this year. April was the only other month to eclipse $13.0 million this year. However, the weekly benefit amount, at $216.15, was slightly lower than last month. This is the second time this year that a monthly decline occurred. The first also was in a month (April) that began a new calendar quarter/base period. The claimant influx in July obviously included a high proportion of lower-wage employees such as crossing guards and cafeteria workers.

All measures increased from July of last year. Claims rose 20 percent and idle weeks compensated climbed 64 percent. The greatest relative change was in total benefits paid and first payments, where both surged 71 percent.

The January-July experience in 1991 also shows increases in all measures. Initial claims increased by 28 percent to 29,070. Weeks compensated were up 59 percent, while total outlay increased 67 percent. These measures from a year ago continue to indicate the severity of the economic downturn from last summer.



Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
July 1991

				% Change From	
	July 1991	June 1991	July 1990	June 1991	July 1990
State UI Program[a/]					
Initial Claims Taken	4,507	3,228	3,734	+39.6	+20.7
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	58,840	49,303	38,302	+19.3	+53.6
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	61,524	50,794	37,159	+21.1	+65.6
Total Benefits Paid	$13,283,563	$11,016,259	$7,667,690	+20.6	+73.3
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$215.91	$216.88	$200.19	+0.4	+7.9
Number of First Payments	2,947	2,078	2,366	+41.8	+24.6
Number of Final Payments	1,777	1,347	1,038	+31.9	+71.2
Total Beneficiaries	15,359	14,425	9,969	+6.5	+54.1
Federal Program[b/]					
Initial Claims Taken	116	75	117	+54.7	-0.9
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	2,209	1,970	1,725	+12.1	+28.1
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,437	2,091	1,750	+16.5	+39.3
Total Benefits Paid	$542,165	$474,512	$404,011	+14.3	+34.2
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$222.47	$226.93	$230.86	-2.0	-3.6
Number of First Payments	101	98	106	+3.1	-4.7
Number of Final Payments	92	62	44	+48.4	+109.1
Total Beneficiaries	578	577	450	+0.2	+28.4
Ex-Servicepersons Program[c/]					
Initial Claims Taken	65	39	43	+66.7	+51.2
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	343	248	346	+38.3	-0.9
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	260	200	282	+30.0	-7.8
Total Benefits Paid	$55,382	$42,200	$56,735	+31.2	-2.4
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$213.01	$211.00	$201.19	+1.0	+5.9
Number of First Payments	39	12	21	+225.0	+85.7
Number of Final Payments	18	13	22	+38.5	-18.2
Total Beneficiaries	83	60	82	+38.3	+1.2
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	4,688	3,342	3,894	+40.3	+20.4
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	61,392	51,521	40,373	+19.2	+52.1
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	64,221	53,085	39,191	+21.0	+63.9
Total Benefits Paid	$13,881,110	$11,532,971	$8,128,436	+20.4	+70.8
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$216.15	$217.25	$207.41	-0.5	+4.2
Number of First Payments	3,087	2,188	2,493	+41.1	+23.8
Number of Final Payments	1,887	1,422	1,104	+32.7	+70.9
Total Beneficiaries	16,020	15,062	10,501	+6.4	+52.6

a/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

b/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation of Ex-Serviceperson (UCX).

c/ No joint claims.

The Washington, D.C. Area Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area was unchanged on average during the 2 months ended in July. For the 12-month period ended in July, the CPI-U rose 3.8 percent. The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) declined 0.3 percent from May to July. The July level of 139.2 (1982-84=100) was 3.4 percent higher than in July 1990.

The unchanged CPI-U from May to July follows an increase of 1.1 percent in the preceding 2-month period. Lower costs of housing and apparel were offset by higher costs for most other categories of consumer spending.

Comparing the local CPI-U with the U.S. city average, over the May-July period, the acceleration was 0.4 point higher nationally. During the March-May period, the acceleration was almost three times higher locally. During the May-July period, the local price increases of food and beverage, apparel and upkeep, entertainment and other goods and services far outpaced the national price increases. On the other hand, the national price increases of housing and medical care far outpaced the local price increases. The local energy price increases were six times higher than the national price increases during the May-July period.

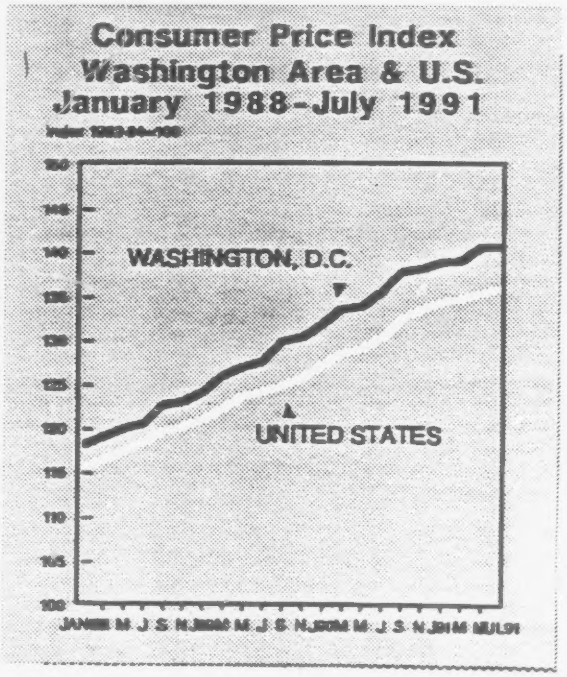
Over the year, price increases in the two indexes were also significantly higher nationally than locally, 4.4 percent increase vs. 3.8 percent. No place was the difference in price increases more evident than in apparel and upkeep where the local index registered a decrease of 2.9 points and the national index registered an increase of 3.6 points. There was also a significant difference in the higher price increases nationally in the food and beverage and housing components. On the other hand, the other goods and services component was 2.2 points higher locally than nationally. The transportation component price increases were 0.9 point higher locally than nationally. Price increases for medical care and entertainment were just about equal.

Washington, D.C.
Area Consumer Price Index
(All Urban Consumers—CPI-U)a/

		Percent Change	
	July 1991	2 months Ago	Year Ago
All Items			
U.S.	136.2	+0.4	+4.4
Washington, Area	140.9	+0.0	+3.8
Expenditure Category			
Food & Beverages	137.7	+0.4	+2.8
Housing	141.8	-0.1	+2.5
Apparel & Upkeep	135.2	+0.1	-2.9
Transportation	124.7	-0.1	+5.1
Medical Care	176.6	+0.4	+8.7
Entertainment	143.4	+1.4	+4.7
Other Goods & Services	180.0	+1.7	+9.3
Special Index:			
Energyb/	101.0	+3.6	+3.9

a/ 1982-84=100, except as noted.
b/ June 1978=100.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; table prepared by the Department of Employment Services. Labor Market Information and Research Staff.



Consumer Price Index
Washington Area & U.S.
January 1988-July 1991

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for July 1991 decreased $11.71. Average Weekly Hours were down .9 hour, as Average Hourly Earnings remained unchanged.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Stone, Clay and Glass Products had a drop in weekly earnings of $38.45 and a drop of 2.6 hours in weekly hours due to less overtime being worked. Hourly earnings were down 13 cents. The rest of the sector had no significant changes.

In the Non-Durable Goods Sector, Food and Kindred Products had less overtime which caused the weekly earnings to decrease $3.67 and hourly earnings to drop 32 cents. Other Non-Durable Goods showed a decrease of $32.05 in weekly earnings and a 3.6 hour decline in weekly hours also due to less overtime being worked.

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
July 1991

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July 1991	June 1991	July 1990	July 1991	June 1991	July 1990	July 1991	June 1991	July 1990
Total Manufacturing	503.49	515.20	493.29	38.7	39.6	39.4	13.01	13.01	12.52
Durable Goods	530.04	541.88	519.40	42.0	42.5	42.4	12.62	12.75	12.25
Stone Clay & Glass Products	526.26	564.71	531.49	41.9	44.5	45.7	12.56	12.69	11.63
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	495.51	498.37	478.50	41.5	41.6	41.9	11.94	11.98	11.42
Other Durable Goods	542.27	552.05	530.02	42.2	42.4	41.8	12.85	13.02	12.68
Non-Durable Goods	483.02	493.85	473.40	36.1	37.3	37.1	13.38	13.24	12.76
Food & Kindred Products	496.52	500.19	450.14	41.9	41.1	43.2	11.85	12.17	10.42
Printing & Publishing	511.29	515.33	493.85	34.5	35.2	35.0	14.82	14.64	14.11
Other Non-Durable Goods	385.45	417.50	404.39	38.7	42.3	42.3	9.96	9.87	9.56

	July 1991	June 1991	July 1990
Total Production Workers	38,200	38,500	40,900

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